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The Pittsburgh Commercial.

VOL. XI. PITTSBURGH, SATURDAY MORNING, DECEMBER 13, 1873. NO. 79

FIRST EDITION

XLIII CONGRESS.

FIRST SESSION.

HOUSE.

The Senate bill removing political disabilities from Thomas Bocock, E. J. Harvey and Daniel Trigg, of Virginia, and John Reagan, of Texas, was passed.

Mr. HOLMAN offered a resolution directing the Secretary of War to report whether payments had been made to the Illinois Central Railroad Company for transportation of troops or supplies of the United States, since the first of January, 1856, and requiring like information as to other roads in aid of which land grants had been made. Adopted.

Mr. DUELL presented a petition from a large number of business men all over the country, for the repeal of the Bankrupt law. Referred.

Mr. BECK, from the Committee on Ways and Means, reported a bill authorizing the cancellation of the export bond for fifty barrels of distilled spirits belonging to John S. Miller, of Illinois, burned while in the bonded cars of the United States. After explanation, the bill was passed.

The SPEAKER laid before the House a communication from the Secretary of War, calling attention to the defalcations in the accounts of General O. O. Howard, of the Freedman's Bureau, and at the request of Mr. Wood, the letter was read.

At the conclusion of the reading Mr. Wood offered a resolution that the letter and accompanying reports relating to the defalcation, etc., of General Howard, be referred to the Committee on Military Affairs, with instructions to report a resolution providing for trial, by military court martial, of any officers of the army implicated therein.

Mr. DAWES said that he did not desire to shield General Howard, but he objected to the resolution making statements as facts before a hearing. It stated as a fact the defalcation of General Howard, and he did not understand that there was any such thing in the papers.

Mr. WOOD—The resolution states as a fact what has been authenticated in two official documents sent here by the Secretary of War. I think we can well afford to stand on facts which the administration declares to be facts. If that gentleman (Dawes) goes back of the administration, I will not.

Mr. DAWES—No matter how strong the proof may appear, it is sufficient for us to use the words "alleged defalcation."

Mr. WOOD—The Secretary of War submitted the documents to the Attorney General, and the Attorney General gave his official opinion that General Howard was liable to be tried by court martial, and that he so tried, but that there was some technical difficulties, owing to the lapse of time.

Mr. DAWES—All that may be, but the proper thing is for the Committee on Military Affairs to report three facts. I move to insert the word "alleged" before the word "defalcations."

Mr. WOOD—It is a very small matter and I will not detain the House with quibbling about it. Let it go; but I desire to say that if that side of the house takes the responsibility of shielding this man, it may do so.

Mr. DAWES—This side of the house will take the responsibility of no man.

Mr. WOOD—It has done so to-day.

Mr. DAWES—But will take the responsibility of passing judgment after conviction, not before.

The resolution, amended by inserting the word "alleged" and striking out the instructions, was adopted.

The House then, at half-past one, resumed consideration of the measure in regard to salaries.

Mr. COMINGO defended the increased salary bill, but announced his intention of voting for the bill reported by the committee.

Mr. PHILLIPS said there would be a limit to the compensation of members, and that limit had been fixed by public opinion. The American Congress stood to-day at the bar of public opinion.

Mr. BURCHARD thought that the pending motion to refer with instructions, omitted one important point—that was as to when the modifications should begin to apply. Their predecessors were not on trial before them, but they themselves were on trial before the country. They should justify the expectations formed of them and date back the commencement of the decrease of salary to the commencement of the present term.

Mr. ORTH said that he offered his proposition, last evening, more in the nature of a compromise than anything else, because it was apparent that unless there was a compromise the House would not come to any conclusion. He thought that four propositions had been definitely settled by public opinion: first, that the law of the last Congress should be repealed; second, that mileage shall again be restored; third, that the franking privilege, so far as relates to the personal privilege of members of Congress, shall never be restored, whatever else may be done in regard to distributing public documents; and fourth, that the salary of members of Congress shall be substantially what it was under the old law. All this he provided for in the proposition which he had offered.

Mr. TREMAIN asked Mr. Orth whether his proposition made any provision for covering back pay into the Treasury.

Mr. ORTH replied that it did not. He said that personally he would have no objection to let the law date back; but as a matter of compromise, he thought it best to let the reduction commence from and after the passage of the law. He believed that that would meet with the wishes of the people, and would be in conformity with the previous history of Congress on that subject. He argued that the people were as much in favor of a reduction of the President's salary as that of members, but he could not be touched till after the present term. He modified his proposition so as not to touch the salary of the Supreme Court Judges: it would apply, to-day, to members of the cabinet. It applied, therefore, only to what were known as political offices. After answering other questions in reference to the salaries of cabinet officers, Mr. ORTH moved the previous question on his proposition.

Mr. SHANKS hoped the previous question would not be seconded. The discussion should be continued until the people were satisfied that the House understood it as well as they.

Mr. ELDRIDGE thought that the latitude of debate should be restored to the floor. The honor of Congress, as well as the honor of individuals, was concerned.

Mr. MONROE stated his position in regard to the salary bill to be this: He believed that the true thing for the House to do was to repeal, as completely and as thoroughly as it possibly could, consistently with the Constitution, the salary bill of the 3d of March.

The House now came to a vote on the two pending propositions. The first was that offered by Mr. Hurlburt to recommit the bill with instructions to strike out the second and third sections of the bill, and substitute for them the following: First, that from and after the passage of this act, the compensation of Senators, Representatives and Delegates shall be at the rate of $5,000 per annum, payable monthly, and, in addition thereto, the actual individual expenses of each Senator, Representative and Delegate in going to and returning from the seat of Government once in every session, to be certified to in writing by each. Second, that the compensation of the Speaker of the House of Representatives shall be $2,000 in addition to his pay as Representative, amounting in all to $8,000, and that of the Vice President the same amount with the same allowance for traveling expenses as hereinbefore provided. Third, that all laws and parts of laws inconsistent with the provisions of this act are hereby repealed.

For these instructions, Mr. Orth offered a substitute as follows: "That the Select Committee report a bill repealing the whole salary act, so far as the same can be done under the Constitution, excepting Judges of the Supreme Court; and ascertain the average amount of salary, mileage and all other allowances, exclusive of any estimate for the use of the franking privilege, paid to Senators, Representatives and Delegates in the Forty-first Congress, and report a bill determining the compensation of Senators, Representatives and Delegates in Congress hereafter, at the amount, as near as practicable, thus ascertained, with necessary traveling expenses; and restoring all other salaries as they were before the passage of that act."

The previous question was seconded by a vote of 132 to 126, and the main question ordered. The question was first taken on submitting Mr. Orth's proposition, and it was decided in the negative, without the yeas and nays. So the bill was recommitted to the Special Committee with the instructions proposed by Mr. Orth, and it was agreed that when the bill shall be reported back, it will be considered under the five minute rule.

The House then went into Committee of the Whole, Mr. Tyner in the chair, and took up the bill appropriating four millions of dollars for the extraordinary expenses of the naval service.

In the course of the discussion

Mr. COX said that there was not fight enough in the House to kill a mouse. The flag of the country had been draggled in the dust through our diplomacy. The House was pusillanimous before all the world, but the navy should be better and stronger, and he would vote at all times to strengthen it.

Mr. HALE, of Maine, accused Mr. Cox of inconsistency, and called to mind the constant attack made by that gentleman hitherto on all naval appropriation bills.

Mr. HAWLEY, of Connecticut, said that he had listened with astonishment to the remarks of the gentleman from New York, [Cox] who had dared to tell the House that it was pusillanimous and had not energy enough to kill a mouse, and that the flag of the country had been draggled in the dust. He had no admiration for that cheap sort of bravery. He added, I "wish to add an emphatic commendation of the President and Secretary of State for the calm self-respect, good sense and, I may venture to say, Christian temper and Christian statesmanship (unpopular as that expression has become), which they have exhibited in this matter. It would have been easy to have plunged the country headlong into war, unprepared as we were, but even if we had the grandest navy in the world, I should have demanded of the administration the same reticence and self-respect which it has shown. Nothing General Grant ever did, from the time he left Galena until he passed through the Wilderness and came into the White House, does him more honor than the patient firmness with which he faced the Spanish difficulty and settled it to the satisfaction of all."

Mr. MYERS supported the bill, and said: "I believe this appropriation is demanded, not only by the extraordinary event which has hastened the necessity for it, but by the ordinary requirements of the navy. The sudden emergency which has arisen should prove a lesson for the future." He referred to the seizure of the Virginius and the subsequent executions, and said: "The President and administration have asserted our rights and vindicated our honor most nobly. The gentleman from New York (Cox) says we have been pusillanimous as a nation in our conduct of this affair. I am astonished at such a declaration. Every demand has been made that the President had a right to make, and to these demands Castelar, as fervent a Republican and as earnest a statesman as Europe in this century has produced, thought it no dishonor to accede. My judgment is that the people of the land are satisfied that everything has been done to maintain the national honor, and further steps will yet be taken to obtain the only compensation for the wrong that can now be given. Castelar at present is master of the situation in Spain, yet any day may bring new complications to him, and a fresh necessity that our navy shall enforce the rights of American citizens in Cuba. Such protection was called for and given only 1st May, in Panama. A sufficient power should be kept in our various squadrons to secure this protection at all times. Peace will be best preserved and foreign complications avoided, in this way. Henceforth we are secure from danger within our own borders, and it is of the highest importance that our naval service should be made efficient, not only to co-operate in missions of civilization, humanity and protection, but by its very strength to ward off the possibility of war."

Mr. COX, in reply to members who accused him of making war speeches, said he had made no speech for war.

Mr. GARFIELD—and never did. (Laughter).

Mr. COX [not noticing Mr. Garfield's interruption]—but I never knew in my life a single member of Congress from Connecticut, from the Hartford Convention down who did not begin to have some sort of war spirit as against his own country, on sectional matters, and who had not always cowered when it came to fighting for the flag abroad.

Mr. HAWLEY, [misapprehending Mr. Cox's last remark]—I want to know who is a coward?

Mr. COX—I am making no personal fight upon you. I said "cowered," not "coward."

Mr. HAWLEY—I suppose you used it in a Pickwickian sense?

Mr. GARFIELD [to Mr. Cox]—Do you spell it with an H?

Mr. COX—No, I spell it e-r-e-d. I said "cowered." I say to the gentleman from Connecticut, who is as irascible as most soldiers are, that when he puts in my mouth a speech for war, he makes a slight mistake. I said nothing of the kind. I said that the House did not come up to the spirit of the people. Congress has not yet vindicated the flag; has not shown the old devotion to the flag which belonged to the other days of the Republic.

Mr. ARCHER said the bill before the House should appropriate a much larger sum than four millions. The pending bill, however, ought to pass immediately, and he only hoped that the Committee on Appropriations would, at an early day, ask for still larger appropriations for the same purpose.

Mr. BECK took occasion to eulogize the administration for its course in reference to Cuban affairs. He said that if there was anything which the President had managed well, it was the negotiations with Spain. The President might have plunged the country into difficulties, and perhaps aggrandized himself at the expense of the country, but the course which he had pursued had been extremely moderate and wise. The discussion was carried on for some time longer, and then the Committee rose and the bill was thereupon passed.

The House then adjourned until Monday.

CRIMES.

Highway Robber Shot.

Special Dispatch to the Commercial.

GALION, O., December 12, 1873.

Last night Alexander Long, of this place, shot and fatally wounded an unknown man on the Cleveland, Columbus, Cincinnati and Indianapolis Railroad track, half a mile north of town. The man wanted Long's money, and threatened to kill him. Long fired with a shot gun, the load lodging in the stranger's head. He will not live.

Burglary at Bellefontaine.

Special Dispatch to the Commercial.

BELLEFONTAINE, O., December 12, 1873.

The residence of John Canby was entered last night and robbed of money and jewelry amounting to seven hundred dollars.

A Pittsburgh Boy Returning Home.

Special Dispatch to the Commercial.

WASHINGTON, PA., December 12, 1873.

R. Cooper, a Pittsburgh boy, aged seventeen, was to-day sentenced to three years and nine months in the Western Penitentiary, for horse stealing.

Wife Murderer Respited.

CHICAGO, December 12.—A private dispatch from Joliet, Illinois, says that Governor Beveridge has granted Bertil Peterson, the colored wife murderer, who was to have been hanged there to-day, a respite of one week, with what object is not known.

Eight Prisoners Escape from the Butler Jail.

BUTLER, PA., December 12—Eight prisoners made their escape from the jail in this place between one and two o'clock this morning. They effected an entrance to the sewer, through it gained the main cellar and dug under the jail wall. Among the escaped is John W. Foreman, lately convicted of attempting to poison John Snyder, of this place.

Punishment for Issuing Fraudulen: Naturalization Papers.

CHICAGO, December 12.—In the United States District Court, to-day, Judge Hopkins overruled the motion for a new trial in the case of Donald McKay, a clerk in the office of the Criminal Court, of this city, convicted of having issued fraudulent naturalization papers, and sentenced the prisoner to three years in the Joliet Penitentiary. This is the first case of conviction for a similar offense under the laws of March, 1870.

NEW YORK.

NEW YORK, December 12, 1873.

BOARD OF ALDERMEN TO HORACE GREELEY'S FAMILY.

The Board of Aldermen appointed a committee to give, as a memento, to the family of the late Horace Greeley, an illuminated album containing the action of the city authorities on the occasion of his death, also an excellent portrait of Mr. Greeley. The album is a volume about two feet long by one foot broad, bound in black velvet.

LARGE "VIRGINIUS" MASS MEETING.

A very large mass meeting was held to-night at Cooper Institute to protest in the name of humanity against the barbarities perpetrated by the Spaniards in Cuba. Hon. Horace Barnard presided. Letters were read from S. S. Cox, Governor Robinson and Alex. H. Stephens expressing sympathy with the objects of the meeting. Gov. Dix sent a letter in which he says that his views in regard to these atrocities, were clearly set forth at the public meeting on the 17th ult., having entire confidence that the Government will do all that is necessary to vindicate the honor of the country, he preferred not to take part in another public meeting on the subject. Addresses were made by Rev. Geo. H. Hepworth, Gen. Cochrane and others.

CASUALTIES.

Father and Daughter Drowned.

CINCINNATI, December 12.—A *Gazette* special says that Miss Coy ventured on the ice on Dewart lake, near Syracuse, Indiana, and broke through in still water. Her father ran to her rescue and broke through, and both were drowned.

FIRE RECORD.

Baltimore Theater Burned Out.

BALTIMORE, December 12.—The fire in the old Museum building, this morning, burned out the American Theater Comique Company, and caused considerable damage to other occupants. Loss $40,000; insurance $15,000.

NEWS SUMMARY.

BY TELEGRAPH.

W. W. Belknap, Secretary of War, was married at Harrodsburg, Ky., on Thursday, to Mrs. H. T. Bowers, daughter of Dr. John A. Tomlinson. The ceremony, owing to recent affliction in the family of the bride's relatives, was wholly private.

A dispatch has been received announcing the death, in England, of James W. Johnston, late Equity Judge for Nova Scotia, and for many years the leader of the conservative party in that province.

Outstanding leading tenders amount to $373,199,581.

The Massachusetts Dental Society has resolved that the use of chloroform in dental operations is not advisable.

The case of Senator Patterson, of South Carolina, charged with attempted bribery during the Senatorial election last winter, has been dismissed. It is understood that a warrant has been issued for the arrest of Representative Jones, who made the affidavit in the case, on a charge of perjury.

A steamer from Sable Island arrived at Halifax, states that the schooner Zephyr, of St. Pierre, loaded with fish, had drifted ashore there, and four bodies in a state of decomposition were found on board. Her masts and rigging were gone and the hull was covered with sea-weed. From the date of papers in her cabin, the schooner is supposed to have dismasted last July, and has been drifting since.

SECOND EDITION.

WASHINGTON.

Salary Talk-Talk in the House.

MORE DISPOSITION TO SPEAK THAN TO VOTE.

The Bill Goes Back to Committee

PASSAGE OF NAVY APPROPRIATION.

West Virginia Contested Election Cases.

DISSATISFACTION WITH THE BANKRUPT LAW.

Movement to Merge Georgetown in the Capital.

SECRETARY RICHARDSON'S EXTRAORDINARY RECOMMENDATION.

Committee on Ways and Means Taken by Surprise.

ACTION TO BE POSTPONED FOR THE PRESENT.

Additional Taxation Not Favored.

Special Dispatch to the Commercial.

WASHINGTON, D. C., December 12, 1873.

Discussion of the Salary Bill.

After all the discussion on the salary grab, the House seems no nearer a conclusion than on the first day of the debate. There are quite a number of members who have not yet had an opportunity to express their opinion, and this was the main reason which induced the recommittal of the bill this afternoon. When it is reported back, the discussion will commence anew, and probably take up several more days. Under the instructions, the committee will have to report a bill repealing all salaries which are not secure by constitutional law. It will be open to amendment, and strong efforts will be made to tack on a provision virtually nullifying it. Members show a great indisposition to put themselves on the record, and to-day it was impossible to obtain a yea and nay on any motion.

Four Millions for the Navy.

The House passed with much unanimity this afternoon, an appropriation of four millions for the Navy Department. The amount asked for by the Secretary was five millions, but the Committee reduced the amount to four millions because, in its opinion, the emergency had in a measure passed away. During the discussion on the bill, Sunset Cox cavorted around in his usual excitable style and inveighed in personal allusions which were hurled out some of the Republican members. For a while things looked a little ugly, but finally calmed down.

West Virginia Election Contests.

The Committee on Elections this morning held a lengthy session in considering the West Virginia contested election cases. Mr. Shellabarger, of Ohio, represented the Republican contestants, and Mr. Paine, of Wisconsin, the Democratic. The committee hope to be able to arrive at a conclusion on the subject next week. The Committee on Roads and Canals have decided to postpone the consideration of bills before them on the subject of internal improvements, until the constitutional powers of Congress in the premises are more definitely settled.

Repeal of Bankrupt Law.

The House Committee on the Judiciary has, by a majority vote, agreed to report in favor of absolutely repealing the bankrupt law. There is much opposition to this, however, in both House, although it seems certain that if not repealed, the law will be substantially modified.

Georgetown Wants to Merged.

The movement which has been lately started to merge the ancient borough of Georgetown in the capital city of Washington, is received with much favor. Petitions to Congress asking the change of the name of "Georgetown" to that of "Washington" are being numerously signed by business men of the former city, who believe that the change will be of great material advantage to them. Georgetown is important part of entry in the last century, but for many years it has been very dead as a business place.

Question of Additional Taxation.

The Committee on Ways and Means were very much surprised to receive the letter from the Secretary of the Treasury asking additional taxation. The committee had intended to call in a body on the Secretary to-morrow, as is the custom at the beginning of a new Congress, and confer with him on the condition of the national finances. The Secretary, it seems, was either ignorant of this custom or was unwilling to wait, and sent in his letter to the chairman of the committee, enclosing the draft of a bill covering his recommendation. In conversation to-night, the Secretary remarked that he was unable to perceive how his letter could have been a surprise to the committee, as he had prepared the way for it in his report sent in at the opening of the session, in which he indicated that if there was not a revival of business at an early day, or a corresponding increase in the receipts, it would be necessary to levy additional taxes. The Secretary further said that he had, already, in order to meet the current expenses of the Government, been compelled to draw on the reserves to the extent of over seventeen millions, and would be compelled to draw another million from the morrow. Information has been received here that large speculative movements have already been begun in whisky, on account of the Secretary's recommendation. The Committee on Ways and Means, at their meeting to-day, discussed at some length the subject, and decided that they would be in no hurry to take action on the bill sent to them by the Secretary, but concluded to address him a letter requesting a statement as to the cause of the deficit in the estimates, and to furnish the committee with an estimate of the probable falling off in the revenue for the entire fiscal year. The Secretary hoped to have action on the bill before the holidays, but from expressions of members of the committee to-night, it is probable he will be disappointed. Members of the committee seem to look upon the present as an inopportune time to increase taxation, and think that some measure tending to improve the financial condition, would be more proper. Numerous telegrams have been received here this afternoon from large cities, showing much anxiety in business circles on the subject. The Committee on Ways and Means, will, to-morrow, call on the President, and will afterwards proceed to the Treasury Department to see Secretary Richardson.

WASHINGTON, D. C., December 12, 1873.

UNION LEAGUE OF AMERICA.

The annual session of the National Council Union League of America will be held in Washington on Wednesday next, at noon. The National Executive Committee will meet at eleven o'clock.

REPEAL OF BANKRUPT LAW RECOMMENDED.

The House Committee on Judiciary, to-day, by a vote of six to four, agreed to report a bill repealing the bankrupt law, guarding, however, pending suits and rights.

THE PRESIDENT ADDRESSES MORE DELEGATES.

The delegates to the Civil Rights Convention called on President Grant to-day, by appointment. In his address to the delegates, the President said the enfranchisement of the colored race ought to have carried with it all the privileges of American citizenship, but they must be aware that there was a prejudice existing against them which has prevented early legislation. He believed, however, that the present Congress would pass such a bill as would secure them all the rights which were now denied them, and to which they were entitled.

TAX ON SAVING-BANK DEPOSITS.

The Ways and Means Committee this morning gave a hearing to delegations from New York and New England, who argued in favor of the repeal of the present tax on saying bank deposits.

CUSTOM RECEIPTS.

The custom receipts for the week ending December 6th, were as follows: New York, $1,310,163; Boston, $390,875; Philadelphia, $179,398; Baltimore, $122,817; total, $1,875,253.

ADDITIONAL TAXATION RECOMMENDED.

The Secretary of the Treasury has written to the Chairman of the Ways and Means Committee, recommending additional taxation, that revenues may meet expenses, and inclosing a bill for that purpose, providing for duty on tea and coffee, which will yield about twenty million dollars per annum, is included in the recommendations. The Secretary also encloses a letter from Commissioner Douglass, making the following recommendations: Increased tax of ten cents on the gallon on distilled spirits, which would yield $7,000,000 annually, and four cents additional per pound on tobacco, which would yield $4,000,000; on illuminating gas, $2,500,000; on gross receipts of railroads from passengers and freight, $6,000,000; on steamboats, gross receipts from passengers and freight, $600,000; on insurance companies, $1,300,000; on telegraph receipts, $250,000, making an aggregate of $22,150,000; and on express companies' receipts $500,000. This tax on tea and coffee would make over $42,000,000. The Commissioner says if more revenue is wanted it could be obtained to the extent of $10,000,000 by restoring the taxes formerly in schedule B, which include stamps on all legal instruments, deeds, mortgages, &c.

SUBSTITUTE FOR FRANKING PRIVILEGE.

The House Committee on Post Offices and Post Roads held a meeting this morning, at which a bill prepared by a sub-committee, with reference to the delivery of public documents through the mails, was adopted. The bill agreed upon in substance authorizes public documents to be sent free through the mails; the free exchange of newspapers and free delivery of newspapers in counties where they are published. In the distribution of public documents, a stamp is provided to be placed in custody of an officer of the House, to be attached to every book, pamphlet and document sent from either branch of Congress. To prevent the abuse of power by unauthorized parties, it is also necessary for the name of the member sending a document to be appended to the package. The committee agreed to report favorably the bill looking to the free delivery of seeds from the Agricultural Department, and will, no doubt, regulate their distribution in a similar manner to the means provided for sending public documents.

CHEAP TRANSPORTATION.

Over one hundred members of the House have signed a call for a meeting in the hall of the House, to-morrow evening, to compare views on the question of cheap transportation.

EUROPE.

BY THE ATLANTIC CABLE.

France.

COMMUTATION FOR BAZAINE'S SENTENCE.

PARIS, December 12.—President MacMahon has commuted the sentence of Marshal Bazaine to twenty years seclusion, and to bear the effects of degradation from rank, but be spared the humiliating ceremony.

BAZAINE'S LETTER TO HIS COUNSEL.

LONDON, December 12.—Marshal Bazaine addressed a letter to his counsel yesterday, thanking them for their efforts in his behalf, and concluding as follows: "I shall not appeal against the sentence, not wishing to prolong in the eyes of the world the spectacle of such a painful struggle. I request you to take the further steps which will come with the lapse of time and the subsidence of party passions.

COMMENTS OF THE PRESS.

The conservative press generally approve of the commutation of the sentence. The *Standard* says it will cause a painful feeling of surprise in the country.

VILLE DU HAVRE.

England has asked France to facilitate the inquiries into the Ville Du Havre disaster, and has offered to defray the expenses of British witnesses. France has accepted the offer and promises that their investigation shall be diligent and prompt.

BAZAINE GOES TO THE ISLAND OF ST. MARGUERITE.

PARIS, December 12.—Island of St. Marguerite, off Cannes, has been selected as the place of confinement for Marshal Bazaine, and he will be sent there this week.

England.

DEATH OF A MEMBER OF PARLIAMENT.

LONDON, December 12.—Mr. Langton, member of Parliament for West Somerset, is dead.

FATAL RESULTS OF THE FOG.

LONDON, December 13, 5:30 A. M.—Fourteen persons have been found drowned in the docks since the late fog. Many other fatal accidents are reported.

Switzerland.

THE GOVERNMENT SPEEDS A PARTING GUEST.

BERNE, December 12.—The Swiss government has decided to hand the Papal Nuncio his passport, on account of the Pope's last evangelical letter.

Spain.

OCCUPATION OF TOLOSA BY GOVERNMENT TROOPS.

MADRID, December 12.—General Morinoes yesterday reoccupied Tolosa, the capital of Guipuzcoa, after an engagement in which the Carlists lost 150 men.

Russia.

ALEXIS ORDERED ABROAD ONCE MORE.

ST. PETERSBURG, December 12.—The Czar has ordered the Grand Duke Alexis on another journey around the world. The Grand Duke will set out on his tour next spring.

FIRE AT MODOC CITY

Business Portion of the Town Destroyed —The Alleged Incendiary Mobbed— List of the Losers, Amount of their Losses and Insurance.

MODOC CITY, PA., December 12.—About seven o'clock this morning fire was discovered in the gentlemen's furnishing store of a Jew named Max Elsasser, and spread with rapidity till the east side of Main street was burned as as far as Hardman's boarding-house. A special to the *Chronicle* gives the losses as follows:

John Riggall, proprietor of the Central Hotel, furniture and building, $2,500; W. G. Davis, grocer, $5,000, no insurance; Skover & Fowler's billiard parlor, $2,000, no insurance; Bahney & Co., clothing, boots and shoes, $5,500, insured $2,200; John Beck, grocer, building, $2,500; Phillips Bros' banking house badly scorched and glass broken, loss $600, no insurance; A. O. Bliss, drug store, $5,000, insured $1,500; Max Elsasser, clothing, loss $1,000, fully insured; Marks & Levy, dry goods, loss $3,000, no insurance; J. C. Wales, hardware, loss $500, insurance unknown; E. C. Falkerson, over hardware store, lost all he had; Wm. Weis left destitute, loss $1,000; S. P. Boyer's pumping well by great exertions was saved, though the water played the flames directly over it. It was considerably torn down in the efforts to save it. Hahn & Beck, shoe shop, damaged $50; S. G. Case, M. D., office, furniture and fixtures, $750; Reed & Grayson, building damaged $200, no insurance; A. Leigh, livery stable, loss $2,500, no insurance; Joseph Cready, dwelling, loss, $900, no insurance; Beck, saloon, loss after no insurance; E. M. Young, lumber dealer, building and stock, loss $1,500, W. Zavier, dwelling and meat market, loss $800, no insurance.

The Jew, Elsasser, was mobbed by a gang of desperate men, with a rope, and escaped hanging only by his tears and protests of innocence. One knock-down grew out of a charge made by one of the principal sufferers. There is great excitement in town and the Jew has hid himself.

THE VIRGINIUS.

The Vessel leaves Havana for Delivery to the United States—Bahia Honda the Port of Transfer—Her Surviving Passengers to be Surrendered at Santiago —Every Prospect Favorable.

HAVANA, December 12.—The steamship Virginius was towed out of the harbor of Havana at half-past four o'clock this morning by a tug boat. She was escorted by the Spanish man-of-war Isabella la Catolica. The tug boat returned to the city at seven o'clock. The destination of the Virginius is supposed to be Key West.

HAVANA, December 12.—The Virginius has gone to the port of Bahia Honda, sixty miles west of Havana, where she will be delivered by the Spanish man-of-war to a vessel of the United States navy. Captain General Jovellar has given the necessary orders for the transfer of the Virginius' prisoners at Santiago de Cuba to an American man-of-war to-day. The Captain General is certain that his orders will be carried out and the men delivered at the appointed time.

DAYTON POSTMASTER IN TROUBLE.

Major Petherbridge Investigating Serious Charges of Official Misconduct—Relatives Kept on the Pay-Roll Without Service—Receipts Signed in Blank.

Special Dispatch to the Commercial.

DAYTON, O., December 12, 1873.

Our postmaster, W. M. Green, has several severe charges preferred against him, and Special Postoffice Agent Petherbridge has been here for several days investigating them. He is charged by two of his clerks with keeping on his pay-roll his brother, at a salary of one hundred dollars per month, and his wife's sister, at sixty dollars per month, when they do no work whatever therefor. He is also charged with requiring his employees to sign receipts for wages in blank, and then filling out the blanks for larger amounts than they draw.

Weekly Sales of Steinway's—Bulletin No. 7

The following is the weekly sales of the celebrated Steinway Piano, as reported by Messrs. Kleber & Bro.:

James Ploeger, Esq., bought a Steinway Square Piano.

Reuben Baker, Esq., Latrobe, bought a Steinway Square Grand Piano.

G. Gregg, Esq., bought a Steinway Square Piano.

John Mitch, Esq., bought a Steinway Square Grand Piano.

Miss C. Exler, bought a Steinway Square Piano.

Mrs. Wallwright, bought a Steinway Square Grand Piano, etc.

In consequence of hard times and the scarcity of money, people in want of a Piano for the education of their children will buy but the best the market affords, and as a consequence there are more Steinway Pianos sold now than ever before, while other makes are a drug on the dealers' hands. The Messrs. H. Kleber & Bro., 122 Wood street, are the exclusive agents, and they do the lion's share of the piano trade.

OHIO FINANCES.

Report of State Auditor—Showing of Financial Condition of Counties, Townships, Cities, Villages, and School District.

COLUMBUS, December 12.—The annual report of the State Auditor, made to the Governor to-day, shows that the amount of debts of counties, townships, cities, villages, and school districts in Ohio is $20,033,123—an increase over 1872 of $2,442,575. City debts are 75 per cent. of the whole indebtedness, and the debts of Cleveland, Cincinnati and Toledo, amounting to $10,275,849, are 67 per cent. of all the debts of cities in Ohio, and more than that of the total reported debts. The Auditor recommends the passage of a law providing for the appointment of a special officer, whose duties shall be to examine into the affairs of every county in Ohio.

THE WEATHER.

WAR DEPARTMENT,
OFFICE OF THE CHIEF SIGNAL OFFICER,
WASHINGTON, D. C., Dec. 13th, 1 A. M.

PROBABILITIES.

The storm which is now central in the Ohio valley will move northwestward over the Middle States, with cloudy weather and rain and fresh to brisk southerly and easterly winds. For Tennessee, and thence north ward over the Ohio valley, lower temperature and rain. For the Lake region, fresh and brisk variable winds, with continued stormy weather, followed by clearing weather in the Upper Lake region. For the Northwest, increasing pressure with low temperature and clear or clearing weather. The temperature will rise slightly in Northern New York during the day, and fall decidedly during the night.

Midnight Bulletin.

DECEMBER 12, 1873—10:48 P. M.

PLACE OF OBSERVATION.	Ther.	Wind.	Weather.
Cairo, Ill	68	N. W.	Cloudy.
Cincinnati, O	59	S	Light rain.
Davenport, Iowa	30	N.	Hvy snow.
Keokuk, Iowa	32	W.	Lt snow.
Leavenworth, Kan	13	N.	Clear.
Louisville, Ky	54	S E	Hvy rain.
Memphis, Tenn	59	S. W.	Cloudy.
Nashville, Tenn	57	S.	Cloudy.
New Orleans, La	66	S.	Cloudy.
Omaha, Neb	8	N.	Clear.
Pittsburgh, Pa	55	S.	Hvy rain.
St. Louis, Mo	30	W.	Cloudy.
Vicksburg, Miss	59	N.	Cloudy.
Indianapolis	50	W.	Threating.
Pike's Peak	6	N. W.	Cloudy.
Ft. Gibson	33	W.	Fair.
Shreveport	45	N. W.	Clear.
LaCrosse	25	N.	Lt snow.
St. Paul	10	N. W	Clear.
Yankton	10	N. W.	Clear.
Galveston	59	S.	Cloudy.

Responsibility of Public Men.

To the Editor of the Pittsburgh Commercial:

Nothing could be more timely than your article under the head of "Responsibility—Where it Begins and Ends;" and if you will press this point until you make the man who accepts position responsible for the acts of his subordinate, then this community will be under some obligation to you. It is a shame to see men who are entrusted solely and entirely with the care of our public interests, endeavoring to shield themselves behind the acts of their employees. You are faithful to your position as public journalists, while you steadily fix responsibility on the principals in this transaction, and not on a cashier or secretary. The public must hold the men regarded by them as responsible, and so regarding them, place vast amounts of money to be used for speculative purposes for public benefit solely and only into their hands. When such trusts are accepted, the public must look to them. Flimsy excuses will appear, and punish not the subordinate but the principal and men will be more careful in the future in gratifying a low vanity by accepting public trust. PUBLIC.

THE NEW CONSTITUTION.

A Small Meeting at City Hall—Messrs. Swartzwelder, Stokes and Howard Speak.

Pursuant to a call issued by a number of those who favor the proposed Constitution, recently adopted by the Philadelphia Convention, after nearly one year's deliberation, a meeting was held last evening at City Hall, for the purpose of urging its adoption upon the people. At the hour fixed for the meeting, 7 o'clock, the twenty benches prepared, were comfortably filled, the occupants being generally the signers of the call, while fifty persons, probably, hung around the hall entrance to await the crowd. A brass band was in attendance, and the expected crowd being late, the band was ordered to the sidewalk below to "drum up." Before the opening, arrivals had augmented the assembly to about six hundred persons, but after Mr. Swartzwelder's address it continued to decrease until, when Mr. Howard commenced to speak there was not fifty persons standing, while fully half the seats were empty.

Mr. Jacob H. Walters called the meeting to order shortly before eight o'clock and announced the list of officers consisting of Josiah King, President, and quite a number of Vice Presidents, the reporters of the Press to act as Secretaries.

Mr. King on being introduced said, "I would not if I could, and I could not if I would, exaggerate the importance of the matters to be spoken of at this meeting." The speaker continued, saying that it was not to consider the merits of a law, a mere statute, that may be changed at pleasure, for which they had met, but to weigh in sober judgment a Constitution which, if approved, will hereafter be the predicate of all its laws.

At the close of his opening address the Chairman read a letter from President Grant, to take seats upon the platform but none responded.

Mr. King announced as the first speaker, Mr. Swartzwelder of the Pittsburgh bar.

Marshall Swartzwelder Esq., being introduced, said he would be brief and to the point. It was a grand sight to see the people meet to consider the fundamental principles of their government. The gentleman spoke of the calamity that impended over the country. He spoke of the issues directly over it. It was considerably torn down in the efforts to save it. Hahn & Beck, shoe shop, damaged $50; S. G. Case, M. D., office, furniture and fixtures, $750; Reed & Grayson, building damaged $200, no insurance; A. Leigh, livery stable, loss $2,500, no insurance; Joseph Cready, dwelling, loss, $900, no insurance; Beck, saloon, loss after no insurance; E. M. Young, lumber dealer, building and stock, loss $1,500, W. Zavier, dwelling and meat market, loss $800, no insurance.

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The Daily Commercial.

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 13, 1873.

"How much moral value or significance is there in a compulsory virtue?"
Ask TWEED.

One of the Bourbon papers has an article on "Lying as a Policy." The subject is admirably illustrated, although without pictures. The context does it.

The fog still hangs over London and the Democratic party. The denizens of the one and the members of the other are paddling about like a parcel of blind hobgoblins in the grimy depths.

"Increase of appetite doth grow with that it feeds on." The obscene press rolls calumny as a sweet morsel under its tongue with apparently increasing relish, and grows more and more prurient day by day.

The colored people of Philadelphia have held a mass meeting to oppose the new Constitution because it ignores the claims of that newly enfranchised class. They will vote against it, in mass, in that city, as we trust they will everywhere else.

It should not be forgotten, in the honest and hearty indignation of the people over the meanness, baseness, treachery and fraud of some of their public servants, that, after all, the general run of fiduciary officers are honest and faithful. They are as a thousand honest men to one that is dishonest.

The Allentown *Chronicle*, Lebanon *Courier*, Easton *Free Press*, Tidioute *Journal*, Hollidaysburg *Register*, and quite a number of other papers in the State hitherto supporting the new Constitution, have now come out against it. If but a few weeks more were left for its exposure, there would not be half a dozen papers in the State supporting it.

It is gratifying to observe that there is an earnest disposition on the part of the longest-headed legislators to delay all matters touching our currency and taxation until after the Christmas holidays, so that they may take advantage of any favorable turn affairs may take. Possibly, when the return of spring shall impart cheerfulness and vigor to our various industries, it may turn out that the inflationists will discover the country has no need of their services.

An important decision on the question of the right of a State to control the charges of railroads, has just been made by the Supreme Court of the United States. The case which brought out the discision was a writ against the Northwestern Railroad for charging a double rate for freight from Chicago to Marshalltown, Iowa, and the Court held that it was competent for the State of Iowa to regulate railroad freights, because such a law is within the power of the State to protect its citizens from imposition.

"It is of itself sufficient comment to mention that the Cuban slaveholders are unanimously in favor of peace and of the courteous surrender of the Virginius."—*Chicago Times.*

When one remembers the course of that paper during our slaveholders' rebellion against the rightful authority of the nation, and contrasts it with the flavor of liberty which inheres in the above observation, how forcible does this high announcement to the great interpreter of modern thought and aspiration seem—

"——Men may rise on stepping stones
Of their dead selves, to higher things."

A water panic prevails out West. That is to say, there is in that section a shrinkage of this indispensable element, so extraordinary as to be altogether without parallel in the history of the settlement of that portion of our country. It is stated that such a scarcity has never been known since the country was first occupied, and the oldest inhabitant is at fault for a precedent. As a number of points the Mississippi is lower than it has ever been before, while on several railroads in Iowa, the tanks are entirely dry for stretches for many miles. Other parts of the western country are similarly afflicted, farmers and others being sorely embarrassed to procure water for their animals and ordinary domestic purposes. Great numbers of wells have been begun. Everybody is calling on the clouds to go into immediate liquidation.

Some folks really do not appear to know when they are well off. As a partial result of Republican administration during the past ten or twelve years, Wisconsin is able to boast that she is practically out of debt. The state owes to its educational fund $2,233,000, and to outsiders only $18,100. The last sum it is ready to pay on demand. The current expenses of the State for the last fiscal year were $1,768,000, and the receipts for the same period were $1,774,558. At the last election, however, some of the people became infected with the foolish delusion that matters might be bettered by giving the Democracy a turn at the helm of affairs. Whether, however, they will be able to keep the ship so fairly before the wind during their watch, or show so true a reckoning at its close, may perhaps, all things taken into account, be considered a very open question.

Whatever shortcomings may in other respects be alleged against us as a people, the charge of meanness, in the sense of illiberality and parsimoniousness, cannot be sustained. For instance, the report of the Commissioner of Education shows that during the last year there was given or pledged to the various colleges of the country nearly five millions of dollars—this by private individuals, who, after being taxed by every civil organization, and by church, society, and nameless charities, have still brought these millions to help to strengthen the foundations of our temples of learning. Better still, this vast sum is but a part of the generous gifts of the people for educational purposes; the total amount of private benefactions for such objects, during the period named, aggregating very nearly ten millions of dollars. We have flecks and flaws enough, no doubt, but there are a good many redeeming elements in the composition of our national character, after all.

Western papers are demanding national legislation on the treatment of immigrants while on their passage from Europe and their reception here; and it is to be hoped Congress will give the subject early and careful attention. Few matters are really of greater practical importance. Immigration from the various countries of Europe to the United States will doubtless show a steady increase for years to come. During the last fiscal year the total immigration amounted to 450,803, an increase of thirteen and a half per cent. over the preceding year. The estimated value of an immigrant—as has already been stated in this paper—is $800; so that we are richer by $367,-$42,000 than we should be without these new comers. If the current reports from Europe are to be relied on, there will be no diminution, but rather a noted increase, in the volume of this human inflow during the coming season. More than ever before, it appears to us, is national legislation on the subject called for.

Alexander Stephens does not appear to concur in the average Bourbon estimate of President Grant. Here is what, in conversation with a friend, he said, a few days ago concerning the *bete noir* of Democracy:

"When I first met him, in 1866, I made up my mind that Grant was one of the most remarkable men of the age. I said so, and wrote to that effect, before Grant was ever thought of for the Presidency, and every year since has strengthened my conviction. He has shown a wonderfully clear conception of his duties and powers as President. He has executed the laws as he has found them, and is as little inclined to usurp power as any President we ever had; in this respect he is a great contrast to Jackson, who had an imperious will. Even in the Louisiana troubles he has illustrated his character. He enforced the decrees of the United States Court, and when asked to send another Judge to New Orleans in place of Judge Durell, he replied that he could not interfere with the assignment of Judges made by the Supreme Court. Not much Cæsarism in that."

The Democratic press has, since the assembling of Congress, with general accord set forth the marvelous intellectual insight and prescience of Mr. Stephens. It is to be hoped they will feel duly happy in having their belief in his extraordinary powers and qualities thus speedily and completely vindicated.

UNANSWERED QUESTIONS.

There has been no lack of interrogation points in the investigation of the Water Commission trouble; and yet there have been several very pertinent questions asked that have not been answered, and some that have never even been asked.

Among the unanswered questions that have been asked, is our interrogatory to the Finance Committee why Mr. Swoope was employed in this business by the city, when he had already been employed by the other side. No reply as been vouchsafed to this very pertinent in-ry; and if it be not considered impertinent, ill here, and now, repeat it.

her question is one that has not yet
and we will present it, now, in the
somebody will have the pluck to put
er, to wit: *Why was Mr. Ross re-*
Secretary of the Water Commission
o weeks after he was detected in his
"irregularities?" The Water Commission knew of the trouble as early, at least, as the 22d of November; *yet he remained the Secretary of the Commission, in charge of all its valuable papers, until December 1st*; and we are told that he *still* has unlimited access to the rooms and the archives of the Commission.

Why was this course pursued? Why was a man known to have done what Ross now confesses to have done, kept in office for a week and more after his default was known? Why was he not instantly removed and the papers of the Commission placed out of his reach? And why is he still allowed to occupy his old place, with all his old privileges except his salary?

We say, frankly, that we do not expect to see these questions answered. Our inquiries respecting the inexplicable employment of Swoope by the city have gone without reply because none is possible that would be creditable; and these that we now put will be allowed to go the same way because, probably, no answer can be given that will not make matters seem worse. Nevertheless, these are all questions that *must* be answered, at some time or other; and the longer the answer is postponed the worse it will be for all concerned.

THE SECRETARY OF THE WATER COMMISSION.

No one can read the testimony of Mr. John Ross, the late Secretary of the Water Commission, given at great length in our paper of yesterday, without feeling the suspicion that something has been kept back which it is important the public should know. What the did testify to was apparently dragged out of him, bit by bit, with all sorts of attempts to negative it, or smooth it down, or explain it away. The accrued interest on the Water-Bonds, for instance, which belongs to the city beyond question, was deposited, he said, to his own credit in the Central Bank. He did not know how much—could not fix a figure; part of it was in the bank and part of it was in the hands of individuals. When pressed on this point he admitted that some of it was then in the City Hall Building. He would not at first say where, or with whom, but finally confessed that it was in his own pockets. All this was, as we have said, *dragged* out of him, and was an unwilling confession that he had taken money belonging to the city and deposited it to his own credit. If that is not embezzlement, according to the criminal code, what is it?

We may note, here, that the great effort of those defending Mr. Ross seems to have been directed to the task of securing the city from eventual loss by his criminality, under the idea that if the city could thus be secured, there could be no conviction of Mr. Ross for embezzlement. Hence the Sunday morning's meeting at Armstrong's house; hence, also, the anxiety of this unwilling witness to satisfy the Finance Committee that, even admitting that he *did* pocket the accrued interest belonging to the city, and deposited it, not in the city treasury, where it belonged, but in the Central Bank, he was still prepared to pay the city all he owed it, &c., &c. We fancy, however, that when a public officer takes the public money and deposits it where it does not belong, and to his own credit, the act of appropriation is for the time complete, and is not cured by subsequent settlement and restitution.

We began this article, however, with the intention of calling attention to a few facts developed by Thursday's testimony. The first of these facts is that Mr. Ross placed Water Bonds in the hands of the Nation Trust Company for negotiation *after* he had been forbidden to do so by the resolutions of the Water Commission. The Commission started out, it would appear, with the purpose of negotiating the sale of these bonds through five of the city banks, of which the Nation Trust Company was one. Under a resolution to that effect, adopted April 21st, bonds were placed with four of these banks, in which number the Nation Trust Company was not included. On July 23d, this resolution was rescinded, thus depriving *all* of the city banks of the privilege of negotiating the sale of the bonds, and subsequently, in August, another resolution was adopted that allowed the city banks from negotiating sales of the bonds as well in Philadelphia as here, thus giving to Townsend, Wheelen & Co., of Philadelphia, the monopoly of that market.

Yet, with these two resolutions of the Commission in his hands, forbidding him to do so, Mr. Ross deliberately placed bonds in the hands of the Nation Trust Company, either as a loan to help that bank through the panic, or for negotiation and sale. It was a palpable violation of the orders of the Commission, and just as palpable a violation of the 91st section of the criminal code. This is *one* fact established by the evidence.

A *second* fact established is that he at various times deposited $223,000 of the city's money with the Nation Trust Company, at first to his own credit as Secretary, but eventually to his personal credit, merely, without his official designation. He admits that this money was the proceeds of Water Bonds sold in Philadelphia and Pittsburgh and that the law required the money realized from such sales to be deposited in the city treasury "within ten days" after the sales; yet he deliberately violated the law; and withheld the money from the city, to which it belonged.

A *third* fact established is that he was to be allowed seven per cent. interest for this deposit. True, he never realized anything from this arrangement, owing to the failure of the bank, and he claims that the interest bargained for was to go to the city, if realized; but we have no evidence of his intention to pay it over to the city, other than his own. We know from other parts of his testimony, that the accrued interest on these bonds, which belonged without question to the city, has never yet reached the city treasury, having been deposited by him in another bank to his own credit. He did not trust *that* to Mr. Gamp, however confiding he may have been with the other money of the city; and as he did not pay it to the city when it came into his possession, the public may be permitted to indulge in some doubts as to the interest on the deposit in the Nation Trust Company ever reaching the city treasury, if it had ever been paid.

The last fact established is that the Water Commission might have known of all these facts, if it had been in the faithful performance of its duty. We are left in some uncertainty, by Mr. Ross' testimony, as to whether they did know or not. He does not know that they knew, but he does not say that they did not. That problem is still unsolved; but the other conclusion, that they could have known, had they attended properly to their work, is not open to doubt or question. The chairman of the Finance Committee may have been a little off the usual routine in his way of putting it to Mr. Burgwin; but there can be but one opinion as to the rightfulness of Mr. Phillips' position—that it is too late for the Water Commission to come in now and plead ignorance of the doings of their Secretary. It was their duty to know what he was doing; and any demonstration of proof that they were ignorant of his actions only increases the culpability of their negligence.

SENTENCE OF BAZAINE.

Foreigners are greatly divided in opinion concerning Marshal Bazaine's sentence, and there is no reason to believe that Frenchmen are entirely unanimous on the subject. Among the French residents of New York, a few, we learn, openly profess sympathy for the condemned soldier as having merited a different judgment by his long and honorable career in the service of France, as well as in view of the circumstances under which he made his disastrous mistakes. Ignorant of the mental qualities and political prejudices of the Frenchmen who take this view, one may suspect that their moderation, the result of distance from the patriotic atmosphere of France, foretokens the feelings with which future generations of the French people contemplate the sentence. We condemnation. That the present generation are quite unable, at least in their actual temper, to judge the Marshal with any measure of fairness and justice has been manifest from the first. The crowd at the Trianon which warmly cheered when the verdict was rendered, merely gave expression to the popular sentiment which, before and during the trial, has demanded the punishment of the most conspicuous commander clearly identified with the prostration of France. Average Frenchmen have never permitted themselves to doubt that, in the reverses of the war treason was everywhere and constantly active and successful, and that, in the tremendous overthrow of Sedan and Metz there must have been a traitor of position and power commensurate to the magnitude of the catastrophe. Hence, when Marshal Bazaine became the subject of legal investigation, he at once became the focus on which the suspicions and resentments of his compatriots were concentrated. Millions of excited imaginations, hitherto groping in the dark for an object known to be near but ever eluding the grasp, immediately recognized in the imprisoned Marshal the long sought for mighty traitor, and like the Egyptians on discovering the much desired bull, Apis, they shouted, "We have found him! let us rejoice together!" Certainly there will seem little exaggeration in this statement to those who have read M. Riviere's indictment or account of Bazaine's offenses and shortcomings, in which by ingenious inference and deduction and by a dexterous placing together of facts and suppositions, the accused is shown to be responsible for nearly all the calamities of the war. Of course, it was M. Riviere's duty to put the case as strongly as possible against the Marshal on trial, but foreigners can hardly help doubting whether, in their existing mood, and in the presence of surrounding influences, even the most high-minded judges were capable of apprehending the defense in its full force.

Some points urged in defense, which to impartial foreigners appear weighty, were, we know, received with slight favor by either the court or the French public. One of these points was the utterly demoralized condition of the army in Metz. Discipline completely destroyed, if ever possessed, the officers having literally no control of their men, and the courage and spirit of a majority of both officers and men wholly broken, the army with which Bazaine, in the opinion of the court and the nation, ought to have been able to cut his way through the German lines was little better than a rabble. This fact used to be somewhat freely conceded, even by Frenchmen, but at the late trial there were few, if any, competent witnesses to present it with clearness to the court, while most of the testimony, the only testimony welcomed, pointed the other way. The officers examined showed amazing or even desperate valor in confessing what they would have done, if Bazaine had only given them a chance.

Another important fact in the defense of which little was made, or rather it was made to tell against the Marshal, was the mere vastness of the inclosed army. It would seem plain to common sense that, where a smaller force might break through a beleaguering army and escape in large part, a host of two hundred thousand men, completely hemmed in by the besiegers might find such an attempt foolish and impossible. But French military vanity refused to entertain any suggestion of the sort. To the popular mind it seem a disgrace that two hundred thousand French soldiers could be thus caged, and therefore there must be a traitor to account for the infamy.

On the other hand, it must be recollected that in entering into negotiations with the enemy, as Bazaine certainly did, he violated a positive and well understood law of his country. In meddling at all with politics and in refusing to recognize the government proclaimed in place of the empire, Bazaine was equally guilty of lawlessness. In defense he argued that, his position was entirely exceptional and unprecedented, France having no longer any tangible government or central authority; a situation never contemplated in the law which he was bound to observe. This plea, however, the court refused to accept as a valid excuse. Policy, we suppose, seems to for bid now more than ever that military commanders shall be allowed to reject a government duly established or proclaimed in France. Policy, too, seems to require with equal Emphasis that military officers shall not in any way concern themselves with politics. Military discipline also demands an example, or as Voltaire said of the execution of Admiral Byng, it seems expedient to shoot one general *pour encourager les autres*. Though all there reasons may have influenced and may serve to apologize for the decision of the court, the prevalent impression, at least outside of France, will most likely be that Bazaine was condemned as a sacrifice to national vanity. And this impression will not be changed, but rather confirmed by the recommendation to mercy, and by the mitigation of the sentence; both the recommendation and the mitigation having been all along confidently anticipated by observers who looked for the Marshal's condemnation as being the sentence demanded by the popular feeling.

GENERAL AND PARTICULAR.

The better class of the Southern papers are making brave efforts to keep abreast with the times. They are now imbosoming themselves of a project for a national cotton convention.

The city council of Yeddo, Japan, has passed an ordinance, directing all children to be labeled with their parents' names and residence. This plan may be regarded as a "lost" art.

In Vermont, lately, a newly married man emptied twelve gallons of apple brandy into the river, at the request of his wife. A more thoroughly that sort of stock is watered, the better.

The operatic critic of the New York *Herald* is exactly the man for the place. He says "Very stupid people often become very musical." How sweetly he discourses.

The members of the Kentucky Legislature have actually for several years been sworn on a copy of "Hitchcock's Analysis of the Bible" instead of the sacred book itself. The defect was only discovered and remedied the other day. Now let us hope for a *radical* improvement.

Hereafter let nobody be surprised to find the coal scuttle refusing to fellowship with the poker. Tammany has turned its back on Tweed.

"Rightly to be great
Is not to stir without great argument."

The leading newspaper of Middletown, Conn., speaks of "Richelieu," as "one of Shakspeare's finest tragedies." That editor's cranium is equal to a wooden nutmeg.

No man can be elected to an office in the Old Dominion, unless he can add to his name the letters B. I. Y., which means, "Born in Virginia," and "Bourbon in Vein."

English papers state that a Chicagoan has been made the victim of a London confidence man, who appears to have swindled him out several hundred dollars. We don't believe it. Most likely they have got the cart before the horse.

Where's Cæsar? The third term idea is dying out, and candidates are looming up. Already there are three in the field.

See, how far from afar,
Twinkless of tyranny, stands
Thy mighty daughter, for years
Who trod the wine-press of war;
Shines with immaculate hands;
Says not a foe, neither fears;
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THE NEW CONSTITUTION.

Farmers in Conclave Against the Proposed Constitution.

[From the Hulmeville Beacon.]

A very large and enthusiastic meeting was held in Union Hall, Newportville, on Saturday evening last, and addressed by Hon. C. N. Taylor, who stated that the Constitutional Convention was composed of the most incompetent men that ever assembled to make laws or a Constitution for a free people.

It is not a Constitution by, from, or of the people. They cannot have one without they make it, or have it made by men representing every class and interest of and among them.

The day laborers, mechanics, farmers, merchants, tradesmen, brokers or bankers, ministers, internal improvement men, manufacturers, miners, doctors, silk-stocking gentry, lawyers, whites and blacks, should all have been represented there by representatives who alone could represent them in those of their own class and calling. He then proceeded in regular order to name some of the objectionable features of the instrument:—

Article 2, section 11. "A member of the Legislature expelled for corruption shall never be eligible to either house." It may be that gross injustice is done to a citizen; it certainly is that a great insult is offered to the intelligence and integrity of his constituents, as was the case in John Quincy Adams's and Joshua R. Giddings's expulsion from Congress, and the universal reversion of that verdict by the people. Once in Germany the legislative house expelled a member, and the whole people took him upon their shoulders, conveyed him to the Assembly, and compelled the reversion of their unjust sentence.

Article 3, section 4. "No law can be passed without a majority of all the members elected to each house." By this section the majority cannot rule. All the sick and absent members count against the plain to common sense that, where a smaller force might break through a beleaguering army and escape in large part, a host of two hundred thousand men, completely hemmed in by the besiegers might find such an attempt foolish and impossible. But French military vanity refused to entertain any suggestion of the sort. To the popular mind it seem a disgrace that two hundred thousand French soldiers could be thus caged, and therefore there must be a traitor to account for the infamy.

On the other hand, it must be recollected that in entering into negotiations with the enemy, as Bazaine certainly did, he violated a positive and well understood law of his country. In meddling at all with politics and in refusing to recognize the government proclaimed in place of the empire, Bazaine was equally guilty of lawlessness. In defense he argued that, his position was entirely exceptional and unprecedented, France having no longer any tangible government or central authority; a situation never contemplated in the law which he was bound to observe. This plea, however, the court refused to accept as a valid excuse. Policy, we suppose, seems to for bid now more than ever that military commanders shall be allowed to reject a government duly established or proclaimed in France. Policy, too, seems to require with equal Emphasis that military officers shall not in any way concern themselves with politics. Military discipline also demands an example, or as Voltaire said of the execution of Admiral Byng, it seems expedient to shoot one general *pour encourager les autres*. Though all there reasons may have influenced and may serve to apologize for the decision of the court, the prevalent impression, at least outside of France, will most likely be that Bazaine was condemned as a sacrifice to national vanity. And this impression will not be changed, but rather confirmed by the recommendation to mercy, and by the mitigation of the sentence; both the recommendation and the mitigation having been all along confidently anticipated by observers who looked for the Marshal's condemnation as being the sentence demanded by the popular feeling.

GENERAL AND PARTICULAR.

The better class of the Southern papers are making brave efforts to keep abreast with the times. They are now imbosoming themselves of a project for a national cotton convention.

The city council of Yeddo, Japan, has passed an ordinance, directing all children to be labeled with their parents' names and residence. This plan may be regarded as a "lost" art.

In Vermont, lately, a newly married man emptied twelve gallons of apple brandy into the river, at the request of his wife. A more thoroughly that sort of stock is watered, the better.

The operatic critic of the New York *Herald* is exactly the man for the place. He says "Very stupid people often become very musical." How sweetly he discourses.

The members of the Kentucky Legislature have actually for several years been sworn on a copy of "Hitchcock's Analysis of the Bible" instead of the sacred book itself. The defect was only discovered and remedied the other day. Now let us hope for a *radical* improvement.

Hereafter let nobody be surprised to find the coal scuttle refusing to fellowship with the poker. Tammany has turned its back on Tweed.

"Rightly to be great
Is not to stir without great argument."

The leading newspaper of Middletown, Conn., speaks of "Richelieu," as "one of Shakspeare's finest tragedies." That editor's cranium is equal to a wooden nutmeg.

No man can be elected to an office in the Old Dominion, unless he can add to his name the letters B. I. Y., which means, "Born in Virginia," and "Bourbon in Vein."

English papers state that a Chicagoan has been made the victim of a London confidence man, who appears to have swindled him out several hundred dollars. We don't believe it. Most likely they have got the cart before the horse.

Where's Cæsar? The third term idea is dying out, and candidates are looming up. Already there are three in the field.

See, how far from afar,
Twinkless of tyranny, stands
Thy mighty daughter, for years
Who trod the wine-press of war;
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RELIGIOUS NEWS.

There is a revival going on in Talmage's church in New York city.

A revival in Union Methodist Episcopal Church, Washington, has resulted in eighty conversions.

A fine new Methodist church is building in New York. It is 100 by 130 feet in size, and will cost $70,000.

C. E. McIlvaine has been elected rector of the Episcopal parish at Towanda, Pa.

Revivals are reported in Baltimore Methodist Episcopal churches and vicinity.

The contributions in Trinity Church, Pittsburgh, for the last six years, amounted to the nice round sum of $312,000.

The whole number of Congregational churches in the United States is 3,623, of which 776 have vacant pulpits, and 1,562 are under the care of "acting pastors."

The members of all the Methodist churches in the world number a little over 3,600,000 souls; ministers, 19,000; local preachers, 58,-000; Sabbath school scholars, 3,000,000.

Henry A. Boardman, the pastor of the Tenth Presbyterian church, Philadelphia, completed the fortieth year of his pastorate in that church November 9.

At Wood's Run, Rev. M. L. Weekly, pastor, a gracious meeting has been in progress for two or three weeks past, and is steadily growing in interest. The meetings are well attended, and quite a number of conversions have occurred. The work still continues to prosper.

Bishop Simpson, during his stay at Marshall, Mich., attending the trial of the Duncan will case, preached Sunday week at the dedication of the Presbyterian church. A correspondent writing to the *Interior* says: "The Bishop held the audience for an hour, and was highly appreciated in his pulpit ministrations by our citizens."

Right Rev. John B. Kerfoot, Bishop of the Diocese, will administer the solemn rite of confirmation in St. Peter's Episcopal Church, Pittsburgh, on Sunday, January 4, 1874 and in St. Mark's, Eighteenth street, on Sunday, January 11th.

Rev. Philip Pierson, of Harmony Presbytery, died in the pulpit of Bethel church. The *Southern Presbyterian* says: "He was reading and commenting on the 3d chapter of Malachi, when he beckoned to some one in the congregation to come to him, and died immediately. He was buried on Tuesday at the Midway church, of which he had been stated supply for thirty-five years."

Bishop Hennessy, of Kansas, has prohibited dancing in that diocese at Catholic fairs and festivals, stating that hereafter church is will be built without dancing. That is capital. We hope Protestant Bishops will take equally high ground.

The separation of Bishop Cummins from the Protestant Episcopal Church has led to the organization of a new church, called the "Reformed Episcopal Church."

The Baptist Church in the two cities, Allegheny and Pittsburgh, are holding a missionary meeting. Interesting exercises will be held in the various churches each evening for a few days.

The missionary meetings held by the Methodist Episcopal Churches, last Sabbath, were a grand success. Some very able addresses were delivered by the bishops and ministers in attendance.

Rev. Alexander Clark, editor of the *Methodist Recorder*, is supplying Messiah Evangelical Lutheran Church, Ninth street. He will preach in that church Sabbath morning and evening.

Rev. J. B. Lucas, pastor First Methodist Church, South Side, will begin a series of sermons next Sabbath on the "Christian Life."

Father Pollard, of St. John's Catholic Church, South Side, is said to be a friend of the poor. Ministers should look after the poor, and do all in their power to relieve their wants. "Faith without works is dead."

Rev. Mr. Waters, in charge of the Soldiers' Orphans' Home at Uniontown, Pa., is doing a good work. The religious interests of the children are looked after with special care. It is proper that the children of men who gave their lives for their country, should be kindly cared for.

Rev. H. Lucas, who, for over twenty-five years has been a member of the Pittsburgh Conference, Methodist church, has been quite lately afflicted with throat disease, of which he is now improving, and is engaged in his work.

Rev. J. D. Herr has accepted a call to become pastor of Penn avenue Baptist church, this city. Mr. Herr has labored in this community for some years, and is well known.

The Third Methodist Church, on extension of Fifth avenue, Rev. J. W. Ellis, pastor, is increasing in congregation and in membership. This church has some earnest workers, who devote time and money to her prosperity.

The Methodist congregation at Bellevue, under the pastoral care of Rev. Wm. Cone, is increasing, especially in congregation. Mr. Cone is highly esteemed for his work's sake.

Rev. R. T. Miller, of Temperanceville Methodist Episcopal Church, has been very successful in building up his church. Mr. Miller is earnest in his efforts to extend the cause of Christ.

Rev. J. C. High, city missionary, is laboring continually, to extend the work and is meeting with success.

Henry Ward Beecher is revising proof-sheets of the second volume of his "Life of Christ."

Bishop Paine is the senior Bishop of the Methodist Episcopal Church South, having been elected with Bishop Capers at the first Southern General Conference held in 1846.

PERSONAL.

A number of interesting letters, written by General Washington to the father of Aaron Burr, who was once President of Princeton College, have been discovered at Princeton.

The public have probably well nigh forgotten Mrs. Ida Templeton, whose husband attempted to murder her by shooting, in New York, some weeks since, but it is well enough to state, for the gratification of her friends that she is likely to recover from her wounds and that too without any scars being left on her face.

Ann Eliza Young, the seventeenth wife of the Prophet, is slowly making her way eastward, lecturing as she goes, and apparently making a financial success out of her exposure of Brigham.

One of Bishop Cummins's disciples has been ousted from his parish. Mr. Feltwell, of Grace church, New York, finds that his flock will not feed on new fodder nor be gathered into a new fold. He hasn't felt well since.

Me-we-se-no-qua, a Chippewa Indian squaw, aged 85 years, with an enormous head and only thirty-six inches tall, is on exhibition at LaCrosse. Barnum has long hankered after her.

George Francis Train is again deluging the public prints. One of his latest effusions is a letter to Tweed, in which he announces himself as the Boss's friend. "You possess secrets against public men," says Train, "that in my hands will release you and put them in your place. Will you speak? If so, name the time that I can visit you. I represent the coming revolution. Two millions of workingmen will soon be clamoring for bread. My last letter to you was from the Bastile of Lyons, France. You are the first victim of the gigantic conspiracy to change our form of government. Act quickly, for desperate men sometimes resort to poison."

George Augustus Sala is going to Russia as the correspondent of a London paper. There is no man in the British Islands who can write so well upon such an infinite variety of subjects, and more particularly upon those that he doesn't know anything about.

Marshal Bazaine was born in 1811; commanded a brigade at Sevastopol in 1854; was made general of division "the next year, and in 1863-4 was given chief command of the French army in Mexico, that he retained until it was withdrawn at the close of 1866. He was assigned a command against Prussia in July, 1870, at the same time with MacMahon and Frossard, and his command was separated from that of MacMahon, and communication with Paris was destroyed by the battle of Gravelotte, August 18th. MacMahon's attempt to form a junction with Bazaine was defeated by the battles of Beaumont and Sedan, August 28 and 30, and finally by the immediately subsequent battles at Sedan, resulting in the surrender of the Emperor, Wimpfen commanding for MacMahon, and 122,000 men to the King of Prussia.

The Cook-room of the Body.

The food that has been cooked in the kitchen must be recooked in the stomach before it can be applied to the nourishment of the body. As a means of facilitating this second cooking, in cases where the process is slowly and imperfectly performed, Hostetter's Stomach Bitters is invaluable. It promotes the generation of heat in the living laboratory in which the crude materials for building up and recruiting the human frame are turned into convertible aliment. But this is not all. It acts beneficially upon the cellular membrane which secretes the gastric juice, upon the liver, which produces that natural laxative, the bile, upon the vessels which receive the digested food, and upon the absorbents which connect the digestive organs with the channels of circulation. If any portion of this complex machinery is ont of order the Bitters will set it right, thus promoting vigorous digestion, healthy secretion, and the production of pure, rich, life-sustaining blood.

Pittsburgh Bank for Savings,

NO. 61 FOURTH AVENUE, PITTSBURGH.

ASSETS JANUARY 1, 1873....$778,251 56.

Chartered in 1863.

Open daily from 9 to 4 o'clock, and on SATURDAY EVENINGS, from May 1st to November 1st, 7 to 8 o'clock, and from November 1st to May 1st, 6 to 8 o'clock. Interest paid at the rate of Six Per Cent., computed from the 1st and 15th of each month, and if not withdrawn compounds semi-annually, in January and July. Books of By-Laws, &c., furnished at the office.

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GEO. A. BERRY, President.
JOHN SNOOT, JAS. PARK, Jr., Vice Presidents.
D. F. McKINLEY, Secretary and Treasurer.
A. Bradley, J. L. Graham, A. S. Bell, Wm. K. Kimick, John S. Dilworth, F. Halm, G. Follansbee, Joshua Rhodes, S. H. Hartman, Robert C. Schmertz, Christopher Ege, John H. Bailey, Solicitor.

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TOYS.

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Invite the attention of Wholesale Buyers to their very large and well selected stock of the above goods, which we will sell at the

VERY LOWEST PRICES,
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The oldest and most reliable institution for obtaining a MERCANTILE EDUCATION.

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HAVANA LOTTERY.

EXTRAORDINARY DRAWING

Of December 18, 1873. ONLY 16,000 TICKETS.

One Prize to every Seven Tickets.

2,097	Prizes amounting to	$1,200,000
1	Prize of	200,000
1	Prize of	100,000
2	Prize of	50,000
2	Prizes, each of	25,000
4	Prizes, each of	10,000
10	Prizes, each of	5,000
473	Prizes, each of	500

Circulars with full information sent FREE. Tickets for sale and prizes cashed by P. C. DEVLIN, Stationer and General Agent, 30 Liberty street, New York. T2t4

DRY GOODS.

DRY GOODS,
FOR
Holiday Presents!
AT
Panic Prices,
AT
McKEE'S.

Furs, Furs, Furs,

For Holiday Presents,
AT PANIC PRICES.

Beautiful Shawls and Cloaks
FOR HOLIDAY PRESENTS,
A

FINANCE AND TRADE.

FRIDAY EVENING, December 12, 1873.

The prominent feature of financial affairs is the increase of better feeling and renewed confidence. The continued rise in the price of products is the result of a desire to invest money in something that is still low and may be expected to advance, rather than of any increase of demand for consumption. Under the influence of this feeling we hear of large purchases of metal and ore by heavy and responsible dealers, who believe that the bottom has been reached in iron at least, and that any change that may come must be for the better. Metal that has cost from $35 to $38 to manufacture and place in this market, is selling for $25 cash, and at nearly as low a figure for time sales. Ore which has been quoted at $12, is selling at $9.

The traveling agents of some of the iron houses, just returned from the West, report the stock in the hands of the jobbers as nearly exhausted.

When a dealer runs out of a line of goods, instead of ordering from the manufacturer of that article he goes to some neighbor and trades some of his stock on hand for what he needs, so that when the spring trade opens it will find the warehouses of the West totally devoid of goods.

We have now forty millions people going through the praiseworthy process of economizing—wearing out their old clothes and making shift to get along without many things usually considered necessary. But this process must have an end before long. Consumption must begin again and with it trade will increase.

When the spring has fairly opened we anticipate an activity in all branches of staple manufactures that will astonish the croakers who see nothing but disaster ahead.

The deposits of the banks are daily increasing, and day by day the aspect of local finances grows more favorable. In the open market there is a fair supply of funds and gold. Mercantile paper finds little difficulty in being placed. The Washington correspondent of the *Journal of Commerce* writes under date of December 11th, of financial matters, as follows:

There is a good deal of wire-pulling and thimble-rigging going on quietly in Congress just now, in reference to finance. The individuals are determined that no stone shall be left unturned in the effort to inflate the currency largely. Most of the bills so far presented on the subject involve inflation, and the protectionists seem the most eager for new issues of currency. It would not be a matter of surprise if the so-called $44,000,000 legal tender reserve should be made part of the greenback currency reform holiday entertainment. One part of the programme is to get that out of the way, so that Congress can go on and expand the currency. It was not generally understood that Mr. Kelley's proposed amendment to the Ways and Means Committee's bill for repayment of the twenty millions loan of 1858 was a mere sham put forth to note the effect. He proposed that we pay that $20,000,000 in coin on the first day of January, and dismiss the alternative to the bondholder of taking the new five per cents. in exchange. He had no idea that he would succeed, but said he merely desired to test the sincerity of the resumptionists by proposing a step towards specie payments, and gain a point in favor of inflation if by any pose it fly his amendment should succeed. Mr. Garfield, on a proposed agitation on tea and coffee to make up the deficiency that would occur in the cash gold in the Treasury, and by this effort he frightened off the protectionists from Mr. Kelley's support. The Finance Committee has tried to commit the Senate to prompt and decisive action by directing the committee to report a bill providing for redemption of the legal tenders, and an "adjusted" currency. That means liberal inflation, and the debate to occur on the resolution next Monday is looked for as one that will have a very important bearing. In fact the vote on those resolutions is expected to determine the sense of the Senate on the general subjects of finance.

—The following table shows the prices of railway stocks, gold, etc., at the various sessions of the New York Stock Exchange, during the day. Furnished by Gold and Stock Telegraph Company, corner of Fourth avenue and Wood street:

December 12, 1873.	10:30 A.M.	11:30 A.M.	12:30 P.M.	1:30 P.M.	2:30 P.M.	3:30 P.M.
Gold	109½	109½	110¼	110¼	110½	109¾
Western Union Tele'h	72¾	72¾	73	73	73¼	72
Quicksilver	28	28	28	28	28	28
Pacific Mail	36½	36½	36½	36½	36½	36½
Adams Express	—	—	92	—	—	—
Wells-Fargo Express	—	—	72	—	—	—
American Express	58½	—	57½	—	—	—
United States Express	69½	—	67½	—	—	—
New York Central	95¾	95¾	95¾	95¾	95¾	94¾
Erie	44	44¾	44	—	—	44¾
Michigan Central	93	—	—	—	—	—
Michigan Southern	75¾	75¾	75¾	75¾	75¾	74¾
Illinois Central	—	—	93	—	—	—
Cleveland & Pittsburgh	88¾	—	88¾	88	—	88¾
Chicago & Northwestern	56	—	55¾	55¾	55¾	54¾
Do preferred	71¾	—	71¾	71	—	71
Rock Island	99	99	99	98¾	98¾	97¾
St. Paul	40¾	40¾	40¾	40¾	40¾	39¾
Do preferred	65¾	—	65¾	—	—	65¾
Wabash	52¾	52¾	51¾	51¾	52	51¾
Do preferred	—	—	81¾	—	—	—
Fort Wayne	89¾	—	89¾	—	—	89¾
Ohio and Mississippi	30¾	—	30¾	—	—	30¾
Union Pacific	31¾	32	31¾	31¾	31¾	30¾
Canton Co.	—	34	—	—	—	34
Boston, Hartf'd and Erie	—	3¾	—	—	—	3¾
Harlem	128½	—	128½	128	—	128

—The following are the quotations for Government and State bonds received by wire from New York to-day:

GOVERNMENTS	Morn.	Noon.	Even'g.
1881, coupons	118¾	118¾	118¾
6-20s, 1865	114¾	114¾	115¼
5-20s, 1864	114¾	114¾	115¼
5-20s, 1865	115¼	115¼	115¾
5-20s, new	111¾	111¾	112¼
5-20s, 1867	113¾	113¾	113¾
5-20s, 1868	113¾	113¾	113¾
10-40s	110¾	111	111
10-40s, coupons	111¾	111¾	111¾
Currency 6s	117½	117¾	118
New 5s	110¾	111¾	111¾
STATE BONDS.			
Tennessees	79¾	79¾	79¾
Tennessees, new	—	—	79¾
South Carolinas, July	11¾	—	11¾
South Carolinas, April	20	—	—
Missouri 6s	92¾	—	—

—Robinson Bros., bankers, Fourth avenue, furnish the following report of active stocks at the Philadelphia Board:

Penna. R. R.	44
Penna. Scrip	92
Reading	88
United Cos N. J.	114¾
Oil Creek	15
Lehigh Valley	59
A. V. R. R. 7-30	89
Central Transit	40¾
Pitts, Cin & St L, bonds	62

PRODUCE AND GENERAL MARKETS.

OFFICE OF THE PITTSBURGH COMMERCIAL, } FRIDAY, December 12, 1873. }

The following are the entire receipts of the leading articles for this market, by river and rail, for the twenty-four hours ending to-day:

Apples, bbls	479
Flour, bbls	862
Cheese, pkgs	26
Butter, pkgs	62
Corn, sacks	893
Wheat, sacks	709
Barley, sacks	185
Oats, sacks	250

The market yesterday indicated no improvement, but ruled moderately active. The rain rendered out-door business anything but agreeable, and consequently the buyers were fewer in number. In the grain market wheat sold yesterday at an advance, but wheat has been all along relatively lower than flour. There is no new feature in the grocery, provision or produce branches, except that an average trade is being transacted.

The following are the wholesale prices unless otherwise noted. From store in a jobbing way the usual advance is obtained:

APPLES—The receipts are more liberal but with an average demand prices have undergone no change. Sales at $1 50@2 for common to fair and $2 50@3 50 per bbl for prime and fancy.

APPLE BUTTER—There is a fair seasonable demand, but quotations are unchanged. Sales at 60@70c per gallon.

ASHES—The market continues quiet, with but little doing. The nominal rates are: Soda Ash, common, 3¾@4c; Refined, 5c; Potash, 9c; Pearl, 10c; Arsenic, 6@6½c; Black Lead, 5c.

ALES—The market is firm, with a fair demand. The card prices are as follows: X $? bbl; XX, $?; India ale $16 ? bbl; Bass' English ale, in gluderkins of 32 gals, $22 @24 ? bbl; 16 gals, $12 @13 ½ bbls, 68 gals, $62 50@65 4; in cases, bottles, $2 15; Wm. Youngers' India pale ale in cases of 8 doz bottles, $3 ? doz; Robt. Younger's sparkling ale $2 ? doz; Guinness stouts, bottled by E & A. Burke, $2 ? doz; Cantrell & Cochrane's ginger ale $2 ? doz; Caswells, Hazard & Co's ginger ale $1 75 ? doz.

BRAN—The demand is limited and the market is dull. Sales at $20@23 25 for fair to choice.

BORAX—Refined 25c ? lb.

BROWN BAKING POWDER—Market steady; sales per doz ¼ lb cans, $1 60; ½ lb $3 00; 1 lb $5 50; 5 lb cans, $27 00 per dozen.

BROOM CORN—Market quiet with sales red and red topped 5½@6¾c; fair to good green 7½@8¾c. Hurl 2½@3½c per lb.

BUTTER—The market for choice continues brisk, and with receipts equal to the demand, prices are steady and unchanged. Choice roll is selling at 28@30c ? lb, but common and mixed have no fixed value.

BUCKWHEAT FLOUR—Dull; the supply exceeds the demand; we quote nominally 4@4½c ? lb.

BACON AND PROVISIONS—The market is moderately active, with a fair demand for small lots. The card rates are steady and unchanged. Below are the quotations:

Extra sugar cured hams 13c; shoulders 9½c; plain 8½c; breakfast bacon 11½c; dried beef, S. C., 13½c; beef tongues $7 50 per dozen; rib sides 9c; short rib 9c; clear 10; mess pork $16 00 per bbl; ham sausage 16c; lard, refined, tierces, 9½c; half barrels 10c; buckets 10½c; in three lb caddies 12c; in five lb caddies 11½c; in three pound pails 12½c; in six lb pails 12½c per lb.

CARBON OIL—The market continues dull but prices are advanced. Sales at the works free on cars 10½@11c per gallon, and the usual advance for small lots.

CIDER—In good supply with sales at $6@8 per bbl.

CRANBERRIES—The current rates are $10 to $13 per bbl; $3 50 to $4 per box.

CONCENTRATED LYE—Dealers report sales at $7 50@8 per case of four dozen packages.

CORN MEAL—The supply continues to meet the demands of the market, with sales at $30 ? ton for unbolted meal, and in a small way at $1 60 ? bush, from store.

CRACKERS—Trade continues satisfactory. Prices for the following grades remain firm but unchanged. We quote: Lemon butter 11½c; ginger snaps 11½c; oyster crackers 7c; soda crackers 7c; sugar crackers 9c; butter crackers 9c; Sweitzer 10c; XXX 12c.

CEMENT—We have nothing new to report in regard to this article. Prices were as follows: Boesons Phœnix $1 00@1 10; Louisville $2 25@2 30; Rosedale $4 00@4 50; white lime $2 00; calcined plaster $4 50; land plaster $5 00@5 50.

CHEESE—The receipts continue limited, and the feeling on the part of holders is very firm. We note sales in small lots at 14½c@15c; in car loads at 13½@14½c, and dairy at 11@12½c; Young America 15c; New York cheese 15½@16c; Sweitzer 16@18c.

DRESSED HOGS—Sales at 5½@6c.

EGGS—The receipts continue light and the demand is fair. Prices are therefore very firm, some dealers holding above our quotations. Sales at 31 @32c per dozen for strictly fresh; fair at 28@30c for pickled.

DRIED FRUIT—The market is rather quiet, with regular sales of peaches and apples at 6@8c for the former, and 10@13c per ? for the latter.

HOPS—The receipts are again light and prices are very firm, with sales at 18@20c ? pound for choice, and 30@31c ? doz. for strictly fresh.

FISH—Prices remain unchanged. We quote: No. 1 extra mess mackerel $26; No. 1 mess do, $23; extra No. 1 shore mackerel, $20; No. 1 shore mackerel, $23; extra No. 1 bay mackrel, $19; No. 1 bay mackrel, $17; extra No. 2 shore mackrel, $17; No. 2 bay mackrel, $14 large No. 3 mackerel, $12 00; No. 3 mackerel, $10; split Labrador herring, $5 to $9; white fish, $7 broad do take trout, $7 00@7 50; large Georges codfish $7 50 to 100; medium Georges codfish $6 50 @ 100; red herring, scale 50c @ box; No. 1 35c @ box.

FEATHERS—There is little or nothing doing and can be quoted at 75@80c ?lb; No. 2 C, 40@45c as to quality and quantity.

FLOUR—The arrivals have fallen off, but there is ample stock in store to meet the demands of the trade. Prices, however, are firm, and it is thought that they will advance before reaching a lower point. Below are the current rates:

State amber wheat	$8 25@8 50
State red wheat	7 75@8 00
Fancy St. Louis	9 00@9 50
Fancy Kentucky white wheat	8 25
Good Ohio red wheat	7 50@7 75
Wisconsin Spring wheats	6 50@7 75
Minnesota Spring wheats	7 00@7 25
Rye flour	5 25@5 50

GROCERIES—The market closed quiet to-day, with a continued firm feeling for coffee, which is reported with an upward tendency. The current rates are as follows:

Coffee—Choice Rio 25½@27c; good to prime 26½c; fair to good 24@25½c; roasted one lb packages, 31c; loose 30½c.

Sugar—Patent cut loaf 12½c; crushed, powdered and granulated 11½c; standard A 10¾c; 11 10¼c; C 10@10¼c.

Teas—Young Hyson 50c@$1 10 ? lb; Gunpowder 50c@$1 25; Imperial 55c@$1 00 ? lb; Japan 75c@$1 00 ? lb; Oolong 55c@$1 00 ? lb; fancy $1 00 ? lb; Souchong 55c@$1 ? lb.

Molasses—Choice New Orleans 75c; prime 65@70c.

Syrups—Extra White Drips 70c; Sugar Drips, 60c; Amber 60@65c; lower grades 35@40c, as to quality.

Rice—Choice Carolina 8½c; Patna 8c; Rangoon 7½c.

GRAIN—The market continues strong at an advance on wheat, and a firm feeling for corn and oats. Below are the quotations:

Wheat—Wanted: Red Winter at $1 50@1 55; Amber $1 60; and White at $1 60.

Oats—Are scarce and wanted; we quote: Mixed at 47c; White at 50c, per quality.

Corn—Sales of old shelled at 68@70c, an advance; new car load sold at 60c; old would bring 65@70c; the market is bare.

Rye—Nominal at 90@95c.

Bran—In the absence of sales, we omit figures.

GAME—The market continues dull at the following rates:

Deer—Undressed, 8@10c ? lb. Long Saddles, 15@18c; Hams 15@20c.

Quail—$2 00 per dozen.

Pheasants—$4 00 per dozen.

Rabbits—$0 50 per dozen.

Squirrels—$1 00 per dozen.

Wild Turkey—$ 00@2 50 each.

HOMINY—The market has undergone no change; we are reported sales at $3 50@3 60 per bbl.

HAY—Are in good supply with sales in a regular way $4 00@4 50 per bbl.

PICKLES—Medium, bbls, $10; medium half bbls, $5 50; half bbls Boston mixed, $8 00; pints, plain or mixed, per dozen, $1 50; quarts, plain or mixed, $2 50; half gallons, plain, $ 75; gallons, plain, $5 50; Hexagon gallons, mixed, $10; English chow chow, bbls, $4 50; English chow chow, quarts, $6 00; English mixed pickles, pints, $3 00; English mixed pickles, quarts, $6 00; English cauliflower, pints, $3 00; English cauliflower, quarts, $6 00; English picalill, pints, $3 50; English picalill, quarts, $6 00; English white onions, pints, $4 50; English white onions, quarts, $7 50; English gherkins, pints, $3 75; English gherkins, quarts, $6 50; English Mofussil, pickles, per dozen, $4 00.

PEACH BLOW—The receipts have fallen off to-day, but with a fair demand prices are steady. Sales in a regular way at $1 40@1 50 per bushel for prime Peachblows, and market at 90@95.

POULTRY—The market is becoming more active, but prices are no higher. Sales chickens, dressed, at 10@12c, and turkeys at 14@15c ? lb.

MILL FEED—We have no change to note in prices. One car lot shorts to-day sold at $16 00 per ton. We quote: Middlings $22@30 per ton; from store $1 25@1 50 per 100 lbs; oats and corn chops, $1 35@1 40 per 100 lbs; bran $14@16 per ton.

MINCE MEATS—The demand continues light but we have no change to note in prices. We quote at 11@11½c per lb by the ½ bbl, and 12c per lb by the bbl.

RAGS—The market is dull and nominal at 2¾ to 3c per lb.

SAUCILIO—Sales at $6 per case of 6 doz, and $5 per case for hand saucilio.

SEEDS—The market was devoid of animation. Flax seed was held at $1 85@1 90. There was no demand for timothy or clover.

SUGAR—The refined sugar can be quoted at 12@13c ? gallon; white wine, 35c ? gallon and charge for packages.

WHISKY—Ruled lower, with sales of highwines at 96@96c per gallon.

MONTHLY METAL REPORT.

OFFICE OF THE DAILY COMMERCIAL, } SATURDAY, December 13, 1873. }

The following are the receipts of pig iron, ore and blooms for November, 1873, by the various railroads taken from the daily reports of the COMMERCIAL:

Pittsburgh, Fort Wayne and Chicago Railroad.

	Ore. Tons.	Blooms. Tons.	Metal. Tons.	Total. Tons.
Nimick & Co	—	—	2,750	2,750
Isabella Furnace	710	—	2,000	2,000
Red Bank Furnace	920	—	—	920
Shoenberger, B & Co	220	—	—	220
Wilson Glass & Co	270	—	—	270
Jug & Co	390	—	110	500
Caughey & Hallman	180	—	—	180
John Moorhead	—	90	180	270
Lewis, B. D. & Co	610	—	90	700
P. D. Nicols	—	—	50	50
Lewis, G & F	—	—	100	100
Hussey, Wells & Co	—	90	—	90
Wm. Clark & Co	130	—	—	130
Wm. Graham & Co	270	—	—	270
McKnight P. & Co	430	—	—	430
Jug & Co	—	—	60	60
J. Reamer	—	40	70	110
Childs & Co	—	—	40	40
Rodgers & B	—	—	30	30
Nimick & Co	—	20	—	20
Various consignees	—	20	30	50
Total	9,300	170	750	10,220

Cleveland and Pittsburgh Railroad.

MANCHESTER STATION.

	Ore. Tons.	Blooms. Tons.	Metal. Tons.	Total. Tons.
Soho Furnace	3,610	—	—	3,610
Laughlin & Co	2,180	—	—	2,180
Graff, B. & Co	680	—	—	680
Palmer & Co	—	—	30	30
Total	4,870	—	30	4,900

Pennsylvania Railroad.

	Ore. Tons.	Blooms. Tons.	Metal. Tons.	Total. Tons.
Nimick & Co	—	150	200	350
John Moorhead	—	—	740	740
Wm. Smith & Son	—	—	120	120
Lewis, Oliver & P	—	—	80	80
Zug & Co	—	—	70	70
Byers, McC. & Co	—	—	50	50
McKnight, D. & Co	—	—	30	30
McKnight, P. & Co	—	—	20	20
Carnegie, K & Co	—	—	30	30
J. W. Porter	—	—	100	100
Jones & Laughlin	—	—	20	20
Kloman, C & Son	—	—	30	30
Miller, P & P	—	—	20	20
Miller, B. & P	—	—	20	20
Total	270	1,410	1,580	3,260

Pittsburgh and Connellsville Railroad.

	Ore. Tons.	Blooms. Tons.	Metal. Tons.	Total. Tons.
John Moorhead	—	—	540	540
Watt, Lang & Co	—	—	230	230
Jones & Laughlin	—	—	20	20
Caughey & Hallman	—	—	110	110
A. H. Childs	—	—	270	270
A. Jacobs	—	—	10	10
Lewis Stone	—	—	10	10
Total	—	—	1,190	1,190

Pittsburgh, Cincinnati and St. Louis Railroad.

	Ore. Tons.	Blooms. Tons.	Metal. Tons.	Total. Tons.
J. Moorhead	—	—	20	20
Loomis & Co	—	—	10	10
Total	—	—	30	30

West Penn Railroad.

	Ore. Tons.	Blooms. Tons.	Metal. Tons.	Total. Tons.
Painter & Son	—	—	1,090	1,090
Smith & P	—	—	240	240
Smith & Son	—	—	240	240
Zug & Co	—	—	50	50
McNish & Butler	—	—	20	20
W. G. Price	—	—	10	10
Nimick & Co	—	—	350	350
Total	—	—	2,000	2,000

Scrap Iron Receipts, November, 1873.

Pittsburgh, Ft. Wayne and Chicago Railroad	380
Cleveland and Pittsburgh Railroad	50
Pennsylvania Railroad	40
Pittsburgh, Cincinnati and St. Louis Railroad	40
Total	510

WEEKLY REVIEW OF THE PIG IRON AND BLOOM MARKET.

OFFICE OF THE DAILY COMMERCIAL, } SATURDAY, December 13, 1873. }

The increased inquiry for pig iron mentioned in our report last week, culminated in an active demand on Saturday, and the holders conceding a little in price resulted in largely increased sales during the week, at prices varying from $25 per ton, cash, to $30 per ton, 6 mos—the bulk of the iron sold being at $27 50 to $28 00, 4 mos.

Most of the furnace men are now asking $30 per ton, 4 mos, while some expect the price to go even higher than that early in the new year.

Many of the mills having secured stock to start into the new year, will not now buy at any advance on the prices of this week. Consequently we cannot expect the volume of sales to be so large for several weeks to come as it was the past week.

We are reported the following sales:

BITUMINOUS COAL SMELTED FROM L. S. ORE.

4,160 tons Grey Forge	$27 50	4 mos
1,000 tons Grey Forge	25 00	cash
600 tons Grey Forge	27 50	4 mos
500 tons Grey Forge	30 00	4 mos
500 tons Grey Forge	25 00	cash
100 tons Grey Forge	27 00	4 mos
500 tons Grey Forge	30 00	6 mos
500 tons Grey Forge	25 00	cash
400 tons Grey Forge	28 00	4 mos
300 tons Grey Forge	28 00	4 mos
300 tons Grey Forge	27 50	4 mos
200 tons Grey Forge	27 00	5 mos
200 tons Grey Forge	26 00	4 mos
200 tons Grey Forge	28 00	4 mos
200 tons Grey Forge	28 00	4 mos
200 tons Grey Forge	28 00	4 mos
190 tons Grey Forge	25 00	cash
100 tons No. 3 Foundry	32 00	4 mos
10 tons Foundry	30 00	4 mos

CONNELLSVILLE COKE.

500 tons Grey Forge	$25 00	cash
300 tons Grey Forge	25 00	cash
200 tons Grey Forge	27 00	4 mos
200 tons Grey Forge	25 00	cash
100 tons Grey Forge	27 00	4 mos
100 tons Grey Forge	27 00	4 mos

ANTHRACITE.

160 tons open Grey Forge, red short $30 00—5 mos
300 tons Chickies Forge, at furnace 28 00—cash

CLEVELAND PIG IRON MARKET.

December 10, 1873.—The iron market continues quiet, with an occasional speculative move. Consumers are buying only for actual consumption, with a view to inventory light stocks on the first of January, after which there should be a fair trade and better prices than are ruling to-day.

Quotations are merely nominal.

CHARCOAL FOR CAR WHEELS AND LAKE SUPERIOR ORE.

MALLEABLE USE.

No. 1	$47 00@	—4 mos
No. 2	41 00@	—4 mos
No. 3	50 00@	—4 mos
No. 4	53 00@	—4 mos
No. 5	56 00@	—4 mos

COLD BLAST CHARCOAL.

ANTHRACITE.

No. 1 Onondaga	$30 00@	—4 mos

BITUMINOUS IRON FOR ALL LAKE SUPERIOR ORE.

No. 1 Pudry, scotch to brand	$37 00@	—4 mos
No. 2 " "	33 00@	—4 mos
Grey Forge	30 00@	—4 mos

BLACKBAND IRON FOR LOCAL WAREHOUSES.

SCOTCH.

No. 1 Glengarnock	$42 00@	—4 mos
No. 1 Eglington	42 00@	—4 mos
No. 1 Ayersome	40 00@	—4 mos

AMERICAN.

No. 1 Massillon	@40 00—	4 mos
No. 1 Volcano	@40 00—	4 mos

IRON ORES.

Lake Superior specular $? cash,
Forsythe 7 50@ bal. 4 mos

The above quotations are for new mines, old are all sold up.—*Commercial Review.*

Nashville Market.

NASHVILLE, December 12.—Cotton—Demand fair and market firm at 13¾@13¾c. Corn firm at 65c. Oats quiet at 50@55c. Flour, wheat and provisions quiet and unchanged. Whisky strong with an upward tendency at 95c.

Cleveland Market.

CLEVELAND, December 12.—Grain market quiet and nominally unchanged; holders firm. Petroleum quiet and firmer and unchanged.

Oswego Market.

OSWEGO, December 12.—Wheat quiet. Corn firm at 70@71c. Barley quiet.

New York Finance and Trade.

Gold Closed at 109¾.

NEW YORK, December 12, 1873.

MONEY

easy at 6@7 per cent. to first class borrowers; 7 gold was paid in some instances.

STERLING

less buoyant, with actual business at 108¾ for 60 days, and 109¾@110¾ for demand. Customs receipts $238,000.

GOLD

closed at 109¾, after selling at 109¾@110⅛. Loans were at 5, 6, and 7 for carrying. The Assistant Treasurer disbursed $268,000. Clearings $35,000,000. The advance in gold was caused by vague rumors of trouble at Havana.

GOVERNMENTS

strong.

U. S. coupons, 1881	18½	5-20's, '67	18¾
6-20's, '62	18¾	5-20's, '68	18¾
5-20's, '64	18½	New 5's	11¾
5-20's, '65	18¾	10-40	11¾
5-20's, '65, new	17½	Currency 6's	11¾

STATE BONDS

dull.

Missouri	92¾	Virginia, old	35
Tennessee, old	79	North Carolina, old	24½
Tennessee, new	79	North Carolina, new	14
Virginia, new	60		

STOCKS

weak to-day, with decline from ⅛ to 3¼ Transactions were largest in Union Pacific, Western Union, Lake Shore, Pacific Mail, Northwest, St. Paul, Wabash, Cleveland, Columbus and Indiana Central, and Rock Island. The late afternoon decline was occasioned by telegrams from Washington relative to the restoration of certain duties and the increase of internal taxation. The market closed weak. The sales between ten and two o'clock amounted to 150,000 shares, of which 33,000 were Western Union, 40,000 Union Pacific, 6,000 Wabash, 4,000 Pacific Mail, 9,000 Ohios, 9,000 St. Paul, 11,000 Lake Shore, 6,000 Northwest, 2,000 Rock Island, and 4,500 Columbus, Chicago and Indiana Central.

Banker's bills	8¾	St. Paul	59¾
Canton	64½	Do preferred	63
W. U. Tel Co	73¼	Wabash	52
Quicksilver	27¾	Do preferred	70
Adams Express Co	99	Fort Wayne	89½
Wells, Fargo & Co	72	Terre Haute	6¼
American Express	58	Do preferred	25
U. S. Express	67½	Chicago & Alton	100
Pacific Mail	36¾	Do preferred	103¾
N. y. Central	93½	Ohio & Mississippi	29¾
Erie	44¾	Clev., Col. & Cin	74½
Erie preferred	70	Bur. & Quincy	95
Harlem	120	Lake Shore	74
Harlem, preferred	128	Panama	99½
Michigan Central	74	Illinois Central	98
Pittsburgh	89	Union Pacific	31¾
N. W. C	54¾	Central Pacific	33¾
Do preferred	69½	Union	84¾
Rock Island	99¾	Hartford & Erie	3¾
N. J. Central	99¾	Del. Lack	99¾

OCEAN STEAMERS.

Date of Departure from New York.

Olympus	December 13	Liverpool.
City of Limerick	December 13	Liverpool.
Republic	December 13	Liverpool.
Virginia	December 13	Glasgow.
Egypt	December 13	Liverpool.
Greece	December 13	Liverpool.
Delaware	December 13	Bristol.
Hyson	December 13	Glasgow.
Russia	December 17	Liverpool.
Adriatic	December 17	Liverpool.
Castalia	December 17	Glasgow.
Thuringia	December 18	Hamburg.
Java	December 20	Liverpool.
City of New York	December 20	Liverpool.
Adriatic	December 20	Liverpool.
Spain	December 20	Liverpool.
Abgilla	December 24	Glasgow.
Minnesota	December 24	Liverpool.
Idaho	December 24	Liverpool.
Etruscria	December 24	Liverpool.
Great Western	December 24	Bristol.
Pommerania	December 25	Hamburg.
Parthia	December 27	Liverpool.
City of Paris	December 27	Liverpool.
Georgia	December 27	Glasgow.
Europe	December 27	France.
Baltic	December 27	Liverpool.
California	December 27	Glasgow.
Minnesota	December 31	Liverpool.
Java	From Boston.	
Canadian	December 20	Liverpool.
	From Philadelphia.	
Vanderland	December 20	Antwerp.
Pennsylvania	December 25	Liverpool.

RIVER TELEGRAMS.

OFFICE OF OBSERVATION, } SIGNAL SERVICE U. S. ARMY, PITTSBURGH, December 13, 1873. }

The following is the Daily Report of the stage of water, with changes in the twenty-four hours ending 3 P. M.

STATIONS.	ABOVE L'W WR	CHANGE, —OR—	DIRECTN OF WIND	STATE OF WEATHER
	Ft.	In.		
Cairo	28	0	N. W.	Clear.
Cincinnati	23	—1	S. E.	Hvy rain.
Davenport	2	7	0	N.	Thr'tng.
Keokuk	3	0	S. W.	Clear.
Keokuk	2	0	9	N. W.	Lt. snow.
Leavenworth	4	0	0	N.	Lt. snow.
Louisville	11	0	0	S. W.	Hvy rain.
Memphis	18	2	10	S. W.	Hvy rain.
Nashville	8	0	0	S.	Cloudy.
New Orleans	10	8	10	6	S.	Fair.
Pittsburgh	10	10	9	S. W.	Hvy rain.
Shreveport	9	7	11	0	S. W.	Cloudy.
St. Paul					S. W.	Cloudy.

S. J. BRONSON,
Assistant Observer, Signal Service, U. S. A.

Brownsville.

Special Dispatch to the Commercial.

BROWNSVILLE, Pa., December 12, 1873.

River rising with about eight feet in the channel. Weather rainy. Thermometer 58 deg. at 4 P. M.

Oil City.

Special Dispatch to the Commercial.

OIL CITY, Pa., December 12, 1873.

During the last twenty-four hours the water has risen some eight feet. Wrecks of all kinds are running down the river, and fears are entertained of a flood much greater than that of last spring. A dispatch from Meadville states that place is in a worse condition than this.

Wheeling.

Special Dispatch to the Commercial.

WHEELING, W. Va., December 12, 1873.

River fourteen feet four inches and rising. Departed—Express for Parkersburg, 11 A. M. Arrived—R. R. Hudson, 4 P. M. Rained heavy and steady all day.

Logansport, Ind.

Special Dispatch to the Commercial.

LOGANSPORT, IND., December 12, 1873.

The rains of the past few days have caused a heavy rise in the Wabash and Eel rivers, and they are overflowing their banks in many places. Part of New Market street bridge, across the Eel river, was carried away this morning by high water.

Evansville.

EVANSVILLE, December 12.—Cloudy and wet; heavy rain this afternoon with prospect for more; mercury 50 to 60 degrees. River risen eight inches. Port List—Up—Fair Play, Grey Eagle, Dinkslager. Down—Ashland, Charmer, Geo. Spangler, Tarascon, Mary Ament. Business fair.

CAIRO, December 12.—Arrived—Samuel J. Hale, Cincinnati; Minnesota, Cincinnati; Capital City, St. Louis. Departed—Mary Alice, New Orleans. River risen six inches. Heavy rain all afternoon. Cloudy and warm.

For Latest River Dispatches see Fourth Page.

RIVER NEWS.

ARRIVALS AND DEPARTURES.

Arrived.

E. Bennett	Carmack	Geneva.
Geneva	Phillips	Geneva.
Elizabeth	Houghton	Elizabeth.

Departed.

E. Bennett	Carmack	Geneva.
Elizabeth	Houghton	Elizabeth.
Elector	R. H. Abrams	Geneva.
Gardner Slade	Kerr	Portsmouth.

MONONGAHELA ten feet ten inches and rising.

Boats Departing this Day.

Geneva	West Virginia	Donaldson, 6 A. M.
Cincinnati	Juniata	Leach, 4 P. M.

The marks last evening indicated ten feet ten inches and rising. We had steady rains all day. Trade on the landing was dull.

CAPTAIN A. J. BUCK has taken charge of the office of the Mary Boyd.

THE Frank Morgan is in the hands of the United States Marshal at New Orleans.

DISPATCHES last evening from Oil City report 9 feet 10 inches and rising with heavy rains.

CORN is taken from New Madrid and vicinity to New Orleans at twenty-five cents per sack.

THE punctual packet Granite State, Captain Kerr, left for Portsmouth on time with a good trip.

THE powerful towboat Wild Duck, Captain Adams, is announced for Cairo and St. Louis. She will have dispatch.

NEGLEY'S hull, allowing towboats to carry over one hundred and fifty pounds steam, passed the Senate and is now a law.

THE punctual steamer West Virginia, Captain Donaldson, takes her departure, at 6 A. M., for Brownsville and Geneva.

THE first shipping north of compressed cotton bid packed beef from Shreveport this year was made on the Lady Lee, on the 4th.

THE punctual packet, "Carrie Brooks," Captain Darlington, left Zanesville yesterday for this port. She will return from here on Tuesday at 4 P. M.

THE fine steamer Messenger, Capt. M. A. Cox, arrived from St. Louis with a good trip. We are indebted to our good friend, John C. Fisher, for a manifest.

A. WARD ROBINSON, formerly river editor of the Cincinnati "Times" has gone to Evansville to take charge of the river department of the "Courier" of that city. Where is Fat Bur

CITY MATTERS.

Letters Held for Postage.

PITTSBURGH, December 12, 1873.

	cts.
Boesicke, F. E., Philadelphia, Pa.	3
Houser, Harry, Harrisburg, Pa.	3
Handel, Mr., Altoona, Pa.	3
Kerns, Cyrus T., Murrysville, Pa.	3
Lawrence Journal, New Castle, Pa.	3
McClurg, Miss, St. Paul, Minn.	3
McCurdy, Ella, Allegheny, Pa.	3
O'Neil, John, Dorchester, Neb.	3
White, J. G., Mercer, Pa.	3
White, W. W., Franklin, Pa.	3

E. C. NEGLEY, P. M.

An Important Anniversary.

To-day is the centennial anniversary of the destruction of tea in Boston harbor—one of the boldest strokes against the usurpations of the British government in America—and we have been pleasantly reminded of this important event, in the reception of some packages of choice teas from the Old Tea House of Mr. D. M. Jenkins, No. 20 Fifth avenue. Those who wish to celebrate the one hundredth anniversary of this memorable event, in proper style, should not fail to call at the Old Tea House, and procure a supply of Mr. Jenkins's best. He has a fine assortment of the various brands, selected with great care, and specially imported for this house.

Alleged Illegal Fare.

It is stated that the Oakland Passenger Railway Company have issued tickets, twelve for a dollar, between the down-town station and Oakland; and that the charge is in excess of the limit provided in the act of Assembly, which prohibits the company from charging more than the following rates per passenger, viz.: To or from any intermediate point between their station on Fourth street, in the city of Pittsburgh, and the Soho station, six cents, or twenty tickets for one dollar; to or from Oakland to the Soho station, six cents, or twenty tickets for one dollar; to or from Oakland to the second toll-gate, three cents, or fifty tickets for one dollar, and to or from Oakland to East Liberty, six cents, or twenty tickets for one dollar.

The Board of Fire Commissioners.

An evening paper yesterday published reports reflecting upon the Board of Fire Commissioners, which we have every reason to believe are utterly without foundation. At this time, when the public mind is excited over defalcations and irregularities in public affairs, everything touching the honesty of public men is seized with avidity by unthinking people, and it is highly censurable for a paper to cast aspersions without the most undoubted proof. The charge now referred to appears to have originated in the disheard fireman and disappointed dealers in hose, and it must certainly come back upon them. Under the resolution of the Finance Committee, adopted in the early part of the investigations now going on, the Fire Commission is preparing a report, and it is at any time prepared for investigation.

PUBLIC AMUSEMENTS.

Pittsburgh Opera House.

Miss Lucille Western will appear as "Nancy Sykes," in "Oliver Twist," at the matinee, to-day. This has been one of her most popular performances during her engagement, and will doubtless be greeted by a large audience. This evening she makes her last appearance this season, in the "Child Stealer." The matinee begins at 2 o'clock.

Academy of Music.

"Humpty Dumpty" will have its last two performances at the Academy to-day—matinee at two o'clock, and evening at eight. Fox & Denier have a very strong company, and will well worth the price of admission to hear and see some of their specialists.

Trimble's Varieties.

A fine variety performance and a laughable play will be given at the Trimble matinee, this afternoon. To-night the bill will be almost double the usual length, so that all will get more than the worth of their money.

Minstrelsy.

On Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday evenings, at Library Hall, Cal. Wagner and his minstrel party will do their best—and none can do better—to please those who may choose to patronize them. The members of the organization, one and all, are fine performers.

THE NATION TRUST COMPANY

Meeting of Arbitrators—Conference of Creditors and Stockholders.

Yesterday morning, a meeting of the arbitrators appointed to adjust the legal difficulties pending between the city of Pittsburgh and the Nation Trust Company, met in the United States Court rooms. Messrs. James Veech, William Holmes and Thomas M. Howe, arbitrators, were present, as were also Messrs. Bigelow, Watson and Swoope, counsel for the city, and Messrs. Acheson, Brown and Geyer, attorneys for the bank. The agreement submitting the case to the arbitrators being signed by less than half the stockholders, the attorneys for the city objected to further proceedings until other names are added. After considerable discussion of this question it was agreed to adjourn until Tuesday next at 11 o'clock A. M., and that the ten days' limit on said agreement expire on December 20th, 1873.

At the same time, a conference was being held between three committees, at the bank building, to consider plans for adjusting the difficulties of the institution. One committee represented the Finance Committee, another the stockholders, and a third the depositors of the Trust Company. The claim of the depositors, it was suggested, should be placed on the same footing as those of the banks, as stated by the depositors' committee that they were not empowered to take any action in the matter, but only to report to the meeting of stockholders to be held on Monday morning. It was agreed that should the terms prove acceptable the depositors should, at their meeting on Monday evening, appoint a committee to meet with a sub-committee of the Finance Committee to view the property which is offered as security. It was estimated that in round numbers the indebtedness of the company is one million dollars and the assets about three hundred thousand dollars. This leaves a deficiency of seven hundred thousand dollars, or about three hundred and fifty dollars per share on the amount which the stockholders will have to pay.

THE RIGHT THING IN THE RIGHT PLACE.

The Conservatory of Music in Connection with the Pittsburgh Female College.

The refining and ennobling influence of music is so universally acknowledged among civilized nations, that no argument need be advanced in favor of making it a subject of daily study among the young, and a source of constant enjoyment for all classes and conditions. Those most deeply interested in teaching the art and theory of music, will be gratified to learn that the "Pittsburgh Conservatory of Music" is to be conducted hereafter in connection with the Pittsburgh Female College, and that it is the intention of the Trustees and Faculty to make it as good as any institution of the kind in the United States. That the public may know whose hands the management has fallen, we append the following list of names composing the Board of Trustees:

Rev. Bishop M. Simpson, D. D., President; S. M. Kier, Vice President; T. Bakewell, Jr., Secretary; D. H. Fralich, Treasurer; Joseph Plummer, J. B. Hubley, Sullivan Johnson, W. W. Mair, Joseph Horne, Rev. James Mills, McCurdy Ella, Allegheny, Rev. John I. Pershing, D. D., S. M. Kier, D. H. Fralich, T. C. Dickson, T. Bakewell, Jr., J. W. Woodwell, Florence Kramer, J. H. Hillerman, J. Shallenberger, Thomas Fawcett, John Fulton, Jr., Paul Hugus, John B. Canfield, Jos. Loughrey, W. J. Kountz.

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE—Rev. Bishop M. Simpson, T. Bakewell, Jr., Samuel M. Kier, Florence Kramer, D. H. Fralich.

The Conservatory will be under the direction of the Rev. I. C. Pershing, D. D., the able and talented President of the College. Already eleven experienced teachers have been entered upon the faculty list, and it is the intention to add to the corps so as to keep pace fully with the demand for instruction. The faculty is composed as follows:

Gustave Biessner, Piano and Pipe Organ.

Mrs. E. Blessner, Piano and Cabinet Organ.

Miss R. Louise S. Wilson, Piano and Cabinet Organ.

H. W. Nicholl, Grand Organ and Piano, Composition and Instrumentation.

Joseph Ebert, Harmony, (including elementary branches.) Counterpart, Composition and Instrumentation, also Piano.

Mrs. Josephine Scudder, vocal music. Arrangements are in progress to secure an additional Vocal Teacher, a gentleman, as a member of the family.

George Toerge, violin; William G. Rupp, guitar and piano, and other orchestral instruments taught by competent Professors.

Mons. Alphonse Danse, French; Madam Pauline Danse, German; Mons Carl Grebe, Italian and Spanish.

The course of instruction will be similar to that of the best Conservatories of Europe, and will embrace everything essential to a finished musical education—a thorough knowledge of both the theory and art of music.

The Conservatory offers unsurpassed opportunities for the cultivation of a correct musical taste, in the concerts which will be given from time to time, and also in the entertainments, partly musical, which are given at regular intervals by the pupils of the Pittsburgh Female College in the spacious and elegant chapel. In these occasions opportunities for practice in public performance will be afforded to those whose acquirements shall fit them to appear as public performers with credit to themselves and the Conservatory. There will be a Normal Department in the Conservatory for the special benefit of teachers, and those who wish to prepare for the profession of music teaching.

The advantages of the Conservatory must be quite apparent to all who desire a musical education. The organization of a Choral Society, for the study and performance of the works of the great masters, to which pupils here will have full admission, and an Orchestra for the same purpose, are decided advantages. The permanency of the Conservatory is assured, since it will hereafter form an important part of that excellent and stable institution, the Pittsburgh Female College.

Circulars, containing full information as to terms, tuition, etc., can be had at the music and book stores.

EIGHT prisoners yesterday escaped from the Butler county jail, among them Foreman, the alleged poisoner of Snyder.

THE MISSING WATER BONDS

Continuation of the Investigation.

EXAMINATION OF CONTROLLER McGOWAN.

His Connection with the Nation Trust Company Explained.

AID ASKED FOR BY GRIER.

PAYMENTS TO CONTRACTORS.

Commissioners Laufman and Burgwin on the Stand.

STATEMENT OF TREASURER MAGEE.

The Finance Committee continued the investigation of the matter of the loss of the water bonds, yesterday afternoon. Mr. Phillips occupied the chair, and Messrs. Fetterman and Negley led in the examination of the witnesses. Most of the afternoon was occupied with the statement of Controller McGowan. Mr. McGowan was prompt in his answers, and showed a wish to give every information to the committee in his power.

Controller McGowan was sworn, and testified as follows:

Mr. Phillips—We want to know what you know about water bonds.

Mr. McGowan—I believe I have not had much to do with them since the organization of the Water Commission; I have given bonds to John Ross and taken the receipts of the Water Commission for the bonds; I have not always got the receipts—in fact, very seldom—on the day the bonds were issued, for the reason that Mr. Ross said the Commission was not in session, but that he would have the receipts signed and sent to me as soon as he could get it done; feeling that I ought to have some confidence in his statements, I have invariably given him the bonds; I am safe in saying that I have waited a week and sometimes two weeks before getting the receipts; I have called upon Mr. Ross—though not expecting there would be any trouble like this—to know why there was such delay in bringing in these receipts, and he either told me that the Commission had not been in session since, or that they had so much business to do that they did not bring it up; I believed that he said then, and I think now it was so; he invariably got the receipts and handed them over to me, and I presume I signed my name to all the bonds, I admit.

Q. Did you understand that it was your duty not to part with a bond until you had got a receipt? A. Well, I believe a strict construction of the law would require that, but as I said before, I felt that it was very inconvenient for Mr. Ross to get the Commission together or go around to them. He would receive orders for bonds to be sent to Philadelphia immediately, and he came to me and got the bonds; I have frequently issued bonds which were done as I did them, but I would not do it again.

Q. Did you know those bonds were being placed without money being returned for them, and if you believe I had had nothing to do with that. My orders were to hand the bonds over and take the receipts of the Water Commissioners for them, and they were to dispose of the bonds. I had nothing to do with them. I attempted on several occasions, from time to time of the organization of this Commission and I got a little rebuff, and that led me to the belief I had no business there.

Q. Did you ever make a report to the Treasurer as to the bonds issued? A. Sometimes I have given an idea of what amount of money ought to be in the city treasury? A. I never did, sir.

Mr. Fetterman—For whom was the rebuff you speak of given to you? A. By Mr. Burgwin there; perhaps he would like to know what it was. I have no doubt he has forgotten all about it, and perhaps did not think of it at the time. I had given the Water Commissioners a list of bonds issued, I was possessed of in the sale of bonds, and had recommended them to Messrs. Burgwin, Wheeler & Co., and Mr. Laufman. Afterwards Mr. Carroll told me they had made arrangements with Townsend, Wheeler & Co., to sell them at a premium, and that they would call at the first meeting after it a gentleman came in and asked for new bonds in exchange; I told him the bonds had passed out of my hands and into other hands, and I did not think it was proper for me to have anything to do with it; and that I would be glad to ask the Water Commission if they intended to sell water bonds in Pittsburgh. I went up to the office of the Commission and said to Mr. Burgwin, "Is it your intention to sell water bonds outside of the arrangements made with Townsend, Wheeler & Co.?" He said, "We have disposed of our bonds." I said, "I do not desire to sell any bonds." He said, "We will retire our bonds." I then turned away and went out.

Q. Down to the last issue in 1873, what has been your method of issuing these bonds? A. Since the organization of the Commission I have issued these bonds upon the requisition of Mr. Ross; he has had say authority from the Commission other than through Mr. Ross.

Q. Did you ever deliver any bonds to any member of the Commission? A. Never.

Q. Was there any party to whom you delivered the bonds that were delivered the Water Commissioner? A. Yes, sir. I might say further that during the present year the most of the bonds were delivered by Mr. Snodgrass; I never knew of any of the members of the Commission getting any bonds.

Q. Who signed and countersigned these bonds? A. They were signed by the Mayor and Controller, signed by me.

H. But countersign by your signature all the water bonds issued? A. Yes, sir, unless some have gone out without a signature.

Q. Did you ever issue any certificates with the order of the Water Commission? A. No, sir.

Q. Was it always done through the secretary? A. Yes, sir; I believe I have given them to be signed; I never had an order from the Water Commission that I can at all recollect of.

Q. Did you ever issue a certificate without the order of Mr. Ross as secretary? A. No, sir.

Q. Do the Commissioners ever meet but any trouble in getting receipts for water bonds? A. I cannot say that I have; sometimes there was more delay than I liked, but Mr. Ross gave such an explanation as was satisfactory to me.

Q. Has the Water Commission ever object to your giving bonds without taking receipts at the time? A. No, sir.

Q. What was the occasion of the delay in this last case when you took those receipts that were issued November 14, 1873? A. That I cannot tell; perhaps I may be censured for that, and if so, I am willing to take the blame of it; if anyone is to blame, it is myself; but there was much confusion in the office at that time; there was then in the whole thing: Mr. Ross said the Commissioners were in some cases there might be a month; I would not like to say that was the exact length of time, but I believe there was one or two weeks.

Q. Was there any objection to the signing of receipts in this case on the part of the Water Commission? A. I do not know of any objection.

Q. How were these receipts given you? A. They were given me by Mr. Snodgrass.

Q. How were these bonds brought in, blank or loose? A. Generally brought in a book or loose.

Q. State whether they were filled out or not? A. They were filled out; I think I am safe in saying that the name and amount were in every registered bond I got; in the coupon bond, of course there was no name but Mr. Carroll. Mr. Ross would bring the bonds there, and I think I could say that the issue was in every one, and I am very certain the amount was also; because I would not sign any warrant without the amount being in it.

Q. Does not the ordinance authorize you to issue bonds only to the amount of five hundred and forty-five thousand dollars, or one million four hundred and forty thousand dollars; I have not looked in the book myself.

Q. You mean the cash the account current will show. The cash receipts are only for that sum? A. Yes, sir; my best recollection is $1,445,000; if I had expected that question I would have refreshed my memory by examining it.

Q. Are there any bonds on hand signed? A. Yes, sir.

Q. How many? A. $76,000.

Q. Is that included in the $2,400,000? A. Yes, sir, They are in my safe now, and will remain there until I get my receipts.

Q. By Mr. Phillips—The question was asked you whether you had paid all bonds